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Monday March 9 1981
No 60,871
Price twenty pence

THE TIMES

Battle of nerves over pay restraint, page 12

West's defence at risk in Civil Service strikes

Britain's Nato allies are deeply concerned by a union plan for selective strikes of key defence workers after today's 24-hour protest stoppage by civil servants over pay. The country's secret surveillance communications network would be disrupted and, union leaders say, "there will be both national and international repercussions".

Selective action after 24-hour stoppage

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The defence capability of the West will be undermined and British tax-gathering severely disrupted by selective strikes among civil servants being mounted in the wake of today's 24-hour protest stoppage over pay.

A top-level warning has been given to union leaders that their plan to call out fewer than 100 key workers in Britain's secret communications surveillance network is causing deep concern among Nato allies.

Union leaders last night refused to give details of their disruption programme, but I understand that members of three different unions are to strike at government communications headquarters in Cheltenham and at the secret tracking station in Bude, Cornwall.

Ministers have warned the unions that the United States Government is anxious about the impact of such action on the surveillance of Soviet warship movements and on the strategic cover of top-secret signals traffic.

Civil Service union leaders who yesterday announced their first "tranche" of industrial action would only say: "There will be a range of selective and disruptive action which will affect Britain's secret communications surveillance network. There will be both national and international repercussions."

The Reagan administration has already indicated that United States funding of the stations and listening devices might be stopped if the Americans cannot be satisfied that the system will be isolated from the industrial relations crisis in Britain's secret service.

Computer operators being brought out

But the disruption also extends to naval and RAF supply and communications facilities, and the Polaris submarine base on the Clyde. The unions confidently expect that Britain will have to pull out of the biennial "Wintex" military exercise which amounts to a Nato dry-run of preparations for a total war with the Soviet Union.

If that happens, it will be for the second time. Civil Service strikes caused Britain to withdraw from the exercise in 1979.

Mr William Kendall, general secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions (COCSU), said yesterday: "We are fed up with the Whitehall brolly-brigade appellation. People should know there are many thousands of civil servants who do not wear striped pants and work in offices, but are scientists, technicians and engineers."

The unions are bringing out computer operators at the naval supply centres at Eaglescliffe, near Middlesbrough, Llangennech, near Swansea, and Ensleigh, Bath, which they say will mean "delays and chaos for Nato".

Computers will also be stopped at the naval dockyards at Chatham, Portsmouth, Devonport and Rosyth. Administrative staff are to strike at the Clyde submarine base, disrupting operations "and specifically the availability of the Polaris missiles".

Maintenance engineers have been called out at the RAF Communications Centre, Pitreavie, Fife, which runs a vital Nato system, and testing engineers at Rosyth are to walk out, halting the testing of warship equipment and weaponry.

In all, more than 300 key defence personnel are being called out on indefinite strike from tomorrow. They will be paid 85 per cent of normal gross wages from union strike funds.

The unions also plan to disrupt the implementation of tomorrow's Budget and then gradually seize up the tax collection system. About 40 reprographic staff at Somerset House will refuse to print the new forms required by tax changes, and excise and VAT staff who normally open the Chancellor of the Exchequer's instructions and act upon them immediately will walk out before he rises in the Commons. That will delay higher taxes on petrol, cigarettes and drink

VAT payments flow will be halted

Greater dislocation of government finances will arise from a strike by 260 computer operators at the VAT centre in Southend. Industrial action will halt the flow of VAT payments worth £350m a week to the Treasury.

Mr Kendall argued: "As VAT collection grinds to a halt, the Government will be forced to borrow more and force up interest rates to get the money."

Recalling that the 1979 strikes had obliged the Chancellor to increase borrowing by 20 per cent and had forced up interest rates, he added: "We hope to blow the Government's economic strategy right off course."

The VAT banking unit will cease to operate for the strike, and accounting of VAT receipts will cease. A strike by 36 computer operators at the Paymaster General's office in Crawley—the banker for all government departments—will rob ministers of information on how their cash limits policy is working.

There will be further disruption of driving tests, and "a wide range of selective and lightning action" at ports and airports. Staff at Heathrow walked out late last night.

The unions are determined to force the Cabinet to increase its 7 per cent pay offer and restore the system of pay comparability.

Contingency plans: The Government last night put a brave face on the announcement of Civil Service strike targets (Our Political Editor writes). Each department, it was said in Whitehall, had prepared its own contingency plans

Many services affected, page 2
Battle of nerves, page 12
Business Diary, page 19

Chancellor set to raise taxes by £3,000m

By David Blake
and Fred Emery

A bleak Budget pushing up taxes by more than £3,000m, is likely to be announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, tomorrow. The tax rises will mean sharp increases in the price of beer and other drinks, petrol and cigarettes.

Income tax allowances are likely to be raised by only five per cent instead of the 15 per cent to meet inflation, which means that the real burden of tax will rise for all but the poorest.

Reports over the weekend suggested that beer would rise by 3p a pint, petrol by 15p a gallon and cigarettes by 12p for a packet of 20. Wine is thought likely to get off fairly easily, going up by between 10p and 12p a bottle, but spirits may rise by more than 60p a bottle.

These increases in most cases would represent a 30 per cent rise since the last Budget, twice the increase justified by straight application of the inflation rate to the end of last year.

Ministers will say that the real value of duty has been falling for many years and that they are just restoring some of its value. Big increases are inevitable and if a full 30 per cent goes through it would raise more than £1,800m from consumers.

The only slightly bright note for families is the prospect of a 10 per cent increase in child benefit. Combined with £1,500m saved by not giving full increase in tax allowances, this will be used to cut the Government deficit.

Big cash handouts for industry are unlikely although heavy oil duty may be cut.

The Budget is expected to contribute £6,000m to the deflation of the economy when combined with increases in insurance contributions and other measures announced last autumn.

But interest rates will be cut, probably by 2 or 3 per cent, and the Chancellor may have some words of encouragement for industrialists worried about the impact of the strong pound on their competitiveness.

The Budget is likely to be a final attempt to restore credibility to the Government's tattered medium-term financial strategy.

Gloomy Treasury forecasts presented to the Chancellor as he prepared the measures emphasized the fact that public borrowing and growth of the money supply this year are well above target.

Borrowing during this financial year is expected to be £5,000m more than planned at about £13,500m and measures are needed to bring next year's forecast borrowing down to about £11,000m.

Even this figure is far above the £7,500m estimate contained in the strategy, which was produced at the time of the last Budget. But the Government believes that the extra borrowing is caused by recession which is deeper than expected and does not jeopardize control of money growth.

Treasury officials now expect the economy to keep sliding downhill until the summer, instead of levelling out about now as they were predicting only a few months ago.

This and a failure to cut spending has pushed borrowing up to a level which is thought to put the Government's strategy at risk.

Although the main thrust of that policy is likely to be reaffirmed by the Chancellor tomorrow, there are expected to be changes in the way the money supply is controlled and the form in which monetary targets are set.

The Government hopes that a cut in interest rates will both encourage stockbuilding and investment and get the pound to a more competitive level. It is felt that high public borrowing may have hurt the economy by forcing up interest rates and thus attracting money from

Continued on page 2, col 1

Most of Suchitoto's inhabitants have fled, leaving ransacked buildings and political graffiti

An eerily empty town reflects the tragedy of El Salvador

From Michael Leapman
Suchitoto, El Salvador, March 8

It is hard to tell whether the people of this once pleasant town, 30 miles north-east of San Salvador, agree with President Reagan's policy of using their country as a proving ground for his determination to thwart communism. It is hard because not many of them are still here.

Two-thirds of the population of some 20,000 have fled since the town became the site of a battle between leftist guerrillas and government forces during the guerrillas' "final offensive" in January. Many are housed in pathetic conditions at La Bermuda, a refugee camp in a former colonial farmstead eight miles away.

The town, the refugee camp and the dangerous hills surrounding them are a microcosm of the disaster afflicting this country. They make a textbook study of how a political conflict turns into a contest for power and survival, fuelled by greed and hatred. On the ground here, it has little to do with ideology.

As the visitor drives in, the streets are eerily empty. He notices first the burnt-out petrol stations, then the ransacked buildings, the left-wing political graffiti scrawled on the walls.

On the main square, the captivating white Spanish colonial church stands miraculously unharmed. Opposite, shops with blackened walls have been boarded up.

On the cobbled streets leading off the square to military headquarters, a score or more women and children queue with pans for water from an army tanker. The main supply was destroyed by a guerrilla bomb two weeks ago. Further on, is a burnt out bus, the international symbol of turmoil.

Down another street is the Cafe Cantikal, where a black-bearded gunman wearing a straw stetson and with a .38 calibre pistol sticking out of his trouser belt explained his role in the conflict. He was a member of the civil patrol, an informal militia that helps the Army and security services and from whose ranks the "death squads" who murder suspected leftists are believed to be drawn.

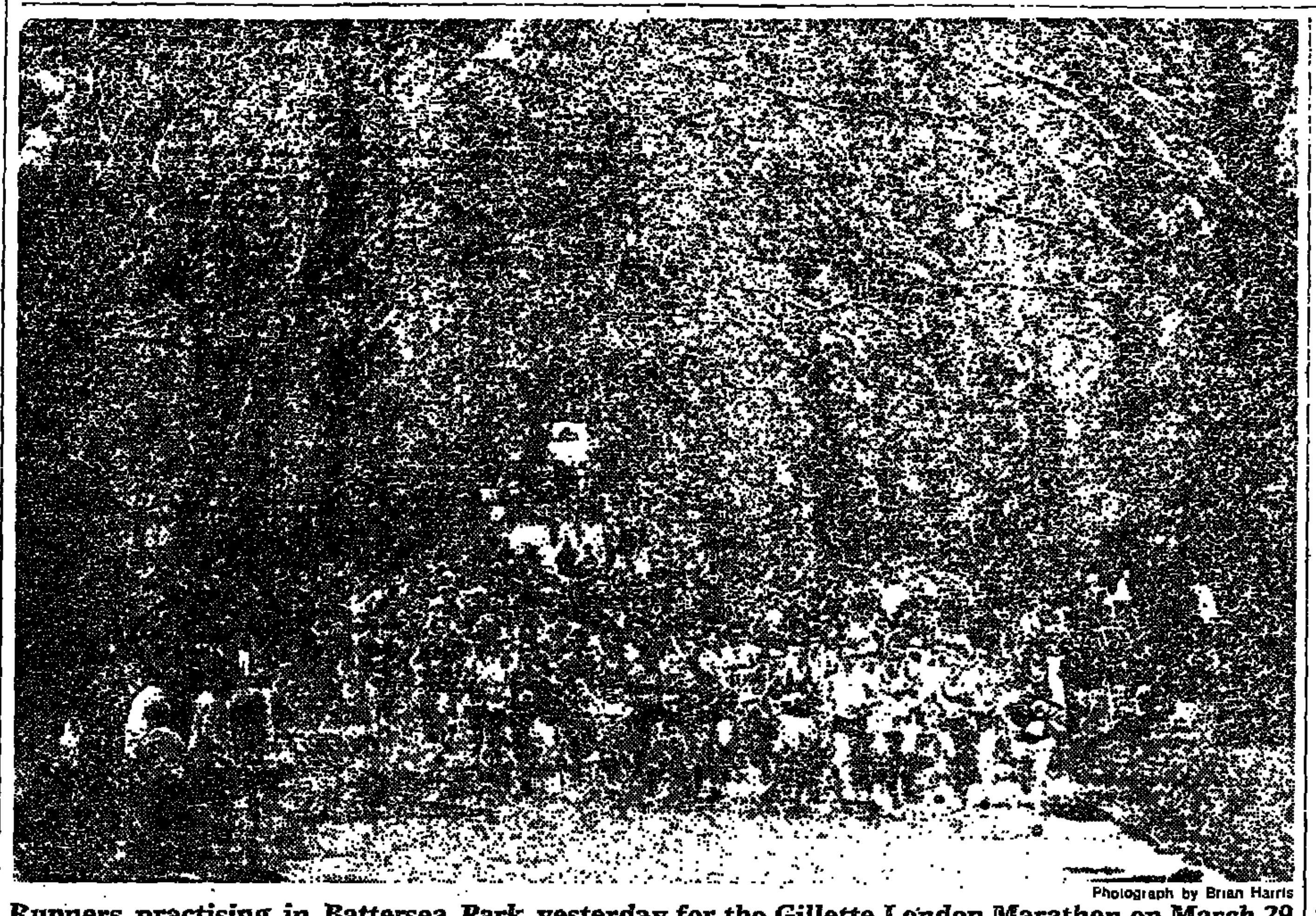
He described atrocities by left-wing guerrillas when the town was in their hands briefly during the January offensive. "They rounded up people and tied bags over their heads", he said. "Then they tied them up together and set off a Claymore mine under them."

Next day, he said, they killed seven more and began burning sugar and coffee fields. What would he do if he caught one of those responsible? "I would make them pay for it", he said. "We never take prisoners."

Tales of horror by the right are offered by inmates of La Bermuda refugee camp down the road, where 1,400 dirty and bedraggled people, mostly children, have fled from the turmoil of the war.

Many children have spots, rashes and infectious diseases

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Photograph by Brian Harris

Runners practising in Battersea Park yesterday for the Gillette London Marathon on March 29

Concerto of confusion over Chopin recordings

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

A record of Chopin's first piano concerto which has been on sale for more than a decade as one of the rare recordings by the late Rumanian virtuoso Dinu Lipatti is exactly the same as a record of the work by Halina Czerny-Stefanska, a Polish pianist.

On BBC Radio 3's Music Weekly programme yesterday, Mr Robin Ray explained how a listener had pointed out that the records sounded alike, and he demonstrated on the programme that the performances were one and the same.

The Lipatti record was first issued by EMI in 1955, and was reissued as part of a boxed set last year. The LP by Miss Czerny-Stefanska was issued in the early 1950s by the Czech record company, Supraphon.

Mr Peter Andry, director of EMI's international classical division, said yesterday: "You can imagine the embarrassment to us". He said their record was made from a tape, with an unnamed orchestra and conductor, which originated with a Dr Kaspar in Switzerland, who had subsequently died.

He said the tape had been authenticated as a Lipatti performance by both Mrs Madeleine Lipatti, his widow, and by the late Walter Legge his recording manager. Since the new discovery, he had spoken to Mrs Lipatti in France; he said she was "very upset" about the whole business, but was still convinced that it was a recording by her husband.

EMI was trying to unravel the matter Mr Andry said. Another tape had recently turned up of the same E minor concerto, which was said to be a recording of a broadcast by Lipatti with the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra, and it was suggested that the record issued by EMI might be a rehearsal for that broadcast.

The Supraphon record listed the performance as by Miss Czerny-Stefanska with the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra under Vaclav Smetacek, and appeared within two or three years of Lipatti's early death in 1950.

The Polish pianist is no longer well known in the west, but in 1949 she won joint first prize in the Warsaw Chopin competition, and two years later performed in London what was described as an extremely subtle performance of the Chopin E Minor Piano Concerto.

Diplomatic campaign mounted by Moscow

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Mr Victor Popov, the Soviet Ambassador, is to call on Mrs Margaret Thatcher today to deliver a letter believed to contain a message from President Brezhnev explaining his recent proposals for a summit meeting with President Reagan.

Similar letters were delivered at the weekend to Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and President Giscard d'Estaing in Paris.

Although details of the contents have not been revealed the letters are presumed to elaborate on the views expressed by the Soviet leader at last month's Communist Party Congress in Moscow.

In what was considered to be a definitive statement of Soviet policy, Mr Brezhnev called for a meeting with President Reagan and offered to halt the development of Russian submarines and to extend military confidence-building measures if the West did the same. He agreed to a proposal from France that advance notification should be extended for military exercises in European Russia, up to the Urals.

He also called on Nato to stop the deployment of American missiles in Europe.

Washington has reacted cautiously to Mr Brezhnev's overtures as the Soviet leader attempts to win concerted European support for his summit initiative.

His letter to Herr Schmidt was delivered on Saturday, the day before Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, flew to Washington for talks. Herr Schmidt said in a West German radio interview yesterday that he would advise Mr Reagan to meet Mr Brezhnev.

Mrs Thatcher, who conferred with Mr Reagan in Washington ten days ago, favours a cool response to the summit

Normal follow-up tactics: The Russians normally follow up any proposals which they advance publicly with private messages and diplomacy and this is not the first time that Mr Brezhnev has sent personal letters to West European leaders (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow).

These messages generally come after any initiative that the Soviet Union regards as particularly important, especially if public reaction in the West is good. Mr Brezhnev repeatedly urged Western leaders not to accept the American proposals to develop the neutron bomb and also urged them to think again just before Nato agreed to deploy new American nuclear missiles in Europe in 1979.

Mr Brezhnev's letter to President Giscard, said to run to 11 pages, comes just as the French presidential election campaign gathers momentum and President Giscard will clearly try to show that his offer on extending confidence-building measures was instrumental in getting a change in Soviet policy.

That is a point the Russians hope will strengthen their arguments for the West to take up Moscow's offers.

But Moscow has little hope of Mr Brezhnev's letter having any influence on Mrs Thatcher since she has already made her tough anti-Soviet views clear in public statements in Washington.

Genscher visit, page 5

Kabul hijackers fly out with 111 hostages

Islamabad, March 8.—A Pakistani airliner hijacked to Afghanistan seven days ago left Kabul today for Damascus with 111 hostage passengers and crew apparently still on board, a Pakistan Government official said.

The Soviet news agency Tass reported from the Afghan capital that the three Pakistani hijackers had a brief meeting with the Libyan Ambassador to Afghanistan before the Boeing 720 took off.

It said they condemned the Pakistan Government for not meeting their demand for the release of 92 alleged political prisoners.

The official Afghan news agency Bakhtar said the aircraft yas allowed to leave Kabul because the Pakistan Government's decision to break off negotiations with the hijackers had provoked a "dangerous situation".

Bakhtar said: "On the evening of March 8 the Pakistan Government suddenly and crudely broke off negotiations with the hijackers and ended all contacts with them. In the light of the Pakistani authorities' position, the hijackers demanded that the aircraft be refuelled and allowed to take off immediately."

Earlier today one of the members of the Pakistani negotiators had said that the crew were no longer capable of flying in acceptable safety conditions. Passengers and crew were on the verge of physical and psychological collapse, he said.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Soviet riposte: Tass today described as absurd a statement by the United States Government that it held Moscow responsible for the safety of the hijacked passengers.

The State Department had said yesterday that the Soviet Union should use its influence in Kabul to obtain the safe release of the hostages, who include three Americans.—Reuter.

Wave of arrests, page 6

Curtains for Sunday performance

By Our Theatre Reporter

Last night's performance of the West End variety show That's Showbiz was called off by Mr Stephen Kendall-Lane, the producer, who said most of the cast were frightened to go on stage.

An injunction was issued in the High Court on Thursday which had the effect of forbidding Equity, the actors' union, from interfering with last night's performance. The union had previously instructed members not to work on Sunday, but after the injunction it delivered letters to the cast on Friday saying that the instruction was "withdrawn until such time as the order of the court is revoked or modified".

Nevertheless, most of the cast of 31 were worried at the consequences of performing, fearing that they might lose their union cards eventually.

Mr Kendall-Lane said that about 100 tickets had been sold for the performance before they stopped taking bookings on Saturday night. More people were turned away at the doors

At about the time the curtain should have gone up about 50 members of the public were admitted to the Phoenix Theatre where a lone pianist was playing. They found the cast sitting in the stalls.

As the bemused audience filed in, the pianist was interrupted by the arrival of Danny La Rue.

Although he knew the show had been cancelled, he had travelled from Bristol to support the cast because, he said, "I was bloody furious".

Mr Kendall-Lane said they would continue the fight. He apologized to the public and offered them either their money back or tickets for another night.

The band gave a brief rendering of the overture to the production, "A Live Show is the Best Show", before audience and cast headed dispiritedly into the night.

Japanese asked to help British Steel

Nippon Steel, the world's most efficient producer of steel, has been asked by Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, to provide advanced technology for the corporation in the reconstruction of some of its mills. A spokesman for the Japanese company said the technology "will increase BSC's yield and decrease production costs" Page 17

Bani-Sadr 'treason'

Hojatoleslam Sadeq Khalkhali, the Iranian former religious judge, publicly demanded the trial of President Bani-Sadr for treason because of a violent political rally in Tehran on Thursday. He was speaking in Parliament during a national furore over the violence in which even one of the President's clerical supporters accused him of megalomania Page 6

Polish Jews blamed

A Warsaw rally was told that Jews were responsible for evils under Stalinism. It was timed to coincide with a university meeting commemorating 1968 demands for freedom and the subsequent riots, condemned at the time as "Zionist" Page 6

Car with two chassis unveiled by Lotus

Lotus unveiled a revolutionary twin-chassis Grand Prix T88 car in London before flying it out to California for track tests. The two chassis overcome vibrations that make cars impossible to drive on the limits. The T88 may line up alongside two conventional Lotuses in the first race of the season in the United States next Sunday Page 10

An Oxford golf first

Miss Jane Tucker, an economics undergraduate at Wadham College, Oxford, will be the first woman to represent the university at golf when she plays for the second team against Cambridge in the annual match on March 18. With Cambridge's consent she will play off the women's tees at Southport and Ainsdale Page 10

Art detective story

An art detective story will end next month with the sale at Christie's of a painting by Adam Elsheimer which is the last missing part of a seven-panel tabernacle dated about 1600 and, until recently, believed lost Page 15

Parties woo blacks

The Labour and the Conservative parties are trying to woo the black electorate. During the past 18 months they have been trying to persuade local parties to consider non-white candidates Page 4

Hang-gliders used in attack on Israel

Two Palestinian guerrillas tried to attack Israel by flying over the frontier from Lebanon on sporting-type hang-gliders equipped with small motors. But only one managed to reach Israel and both were captured exhausted and asleep Page 6

British tennis win

Britain beat Italy 3—2 in the Davis Cup at Brighton, thus qualifying for a place in the last eight against New Zealand. Britain led 2—1 at the start of yesterday's play, but Panatta beat Lewis to level the score. Mottram then won the deciding singles Page 10

Defence pledge: Mr John Nott promised a study later this year of "crucial questions" 2

Government alert: Councils failing to achieve savings targets have received a warning that their freedom might be curtailed 4

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 24, 26; Appointments, 20, 23, 24; Reader Services Directory, 22; Property, 23

Survey contradicts findings that children achieve better results in single-sex schools

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Evidence that pupils do better in single sex than in mixed schools will have to be reviewed in the light of new findings.

A report to be published by the Government later this year, giving the results of the second national survey of the performance in mathematics of pupils aged 15, says that although the overall findings confirmed earlier studies in suggesting that both boys and girls do better in single-sex schools, a different picture emerged when schools were divided into two groups, comprehensives and those with a selective intake.

Then it was found that in comprehensive schools there was no difference at all in the performance of pupils in single-sex and mixed schools: selective schools accounted for the entire difference in performance between single-sex and mixed schools.

The survey was carried out by the Assessment of Performance Unit (APU), which is part of the Department of Education and Science.

Without further investigation, it was impossible to judge whether that difference was related to the sex-type of the school or to some other factor such as a tendency for grammar schools to be single sex and secondary moderns mixed, the report says.

The APU's first national survey of the performance of pupils aged 15 in English language (reading and writing), which is also to be published later this year, indicates as well that girls and boys do better in single-sex schools, except in Northern Ireland where no significant difference was found.

In Northern Ireland, only 44 per cent of pupils are in mixed schools compared with 79 per cent in England, and 93 per cent in Wales.

Unfortunately, the schools in the English-language survey were not divided into comprehensives and selective schools. But the report emphasizes just because a school's sex-type is found to be associated with pupil performance, they are not necessarily casually related.

Overall, the suveys showed that in all types of school boys tended to do better than girls in mathematics, but much less well in writing (where tests included style and content as well as grammar and spelling) and about the same as girls in reading.

Differences found in pupils' performance in different regions produced an inconclusive pattern. For reading, pupils' performance in England as a whole was better than in Northern Ireland, although Northern Ireland scored higher than England in the APU's earlier survey of 11-year-olds.

No significant difference were found in the scores for writing between the regions. But in the secondary school mathematics survey, England and Northern Ireland obtained the highest scores and Wales the lowest, while in the APU's earlier mathematics survey of 11-year-olds, Wales had scored higher than England, and Northern Ireland highest of all.

Paradoxically, the results of the English language survey suggest that pupils do worse in schools with the more favourable teacher-pupil ratios. That may be explained by the fact that schools with favourable teacher-pupil ratios tend to be found in poorer areas.

Less than 1 per cent of the 10,000 15-year-old pupils involved in the English language survey were found to be illiterate when judged by the criteria of being "able to read with understanding, and to express themselves in writing in such a way as to be understood by others".

Four out of five pupils said they liked to read by themselves for pleasure, although only a quarter liked to read "for hours on end". Just over half preferred to read comics or magazines rather than books. One third enjoyed reading poetry.

On the writing tests, nearly half of the pupils produced work containing only very few grammatical errors, and the work of a third showed no more than a few spelling errors.

The APU has decided to extend its English-language monitoring programme which, like mathematics and science, is to be carried out annually, to include listening and speaking skills.



Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Fluttering and dancing in yesterday's stiff breezes: daffodils near Hyde Park Corner.

Average pupils 'most neglected'

By Our Education Correspondent

The child of average ability is the most neglected pupil in the state education system, Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, told a conference organized by the National Council for Educational Standards in London yesterday.

The comprehensive school had spent much time and attention on clever children and devoted resources to them because they produced good academic results. It had also provided "fairly lavishly" in recent years for the child with acute learning difficulties, Mr Dawson, a former comprehensive school head, said.

But the average child was being neglected, he maintained. "He scores seven out of 10 for his homework, when he could score eight or nine if pressed harder. In class, his work is adequate. He bothers no one, so his teachers do not bother him. Thus our greatest natural resource, the average child, wastes away."

He blamed the failure of many comprehensive schools on the fact that, when they were established in the 1950s and early 1960s, the head teachers were almost invariably recruited from grammar or independent schools.

If a comprehensive school was to be successful, it must have a balanced comprehensive intake. But, Mr Dawson argued, that was impossible for many schools if parents were given the right to choose schools; and yet without parental choice, all schools were doomed to failure.

"The very success of some schools is made possible only by the failure of others."

Dr John Marks and Mrs Caroline Cox, both members of the National Council for Educational Research, gave further details arising from their study of sixth forms in inner-London comprehensive schools which, they claimed, confirmed earlier conclusions that "a cruel confidence trick" was being played on inner London pupils.

They said that their pamphlet published last month, giving details of A-level examination results in 1978 for 90 comprehensives in the Inner London Education Authority, had been described by Mr Peter Newsam, the authority's chief education officer, as "an act of buffoonery" on the ground that they had not included ILEA schools with a selective intake and above average A-level results.

But they had now obtained the A-level results for all schools in three ILEA divisions, Islington, Hackney, and Tower Hamlets. Those corroborated their earlier findings, they said. The A-level pass rate in those divisions was only 55 per cent, and the average teaching group for eight main A-level subjects contained fewer than four pupils, they said.

The three divisions chosen by Mrs Cox and Dr Marks have exceptionally high proportions of poor and socially deprived families.

Mr Heseltine warns councils on savings

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Local authorities have received a warning that their freedom might be curtailed if they fail to achieve government savings targets.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, addressing the Conservative Party local government conference in London on Saturday, defended his actions in asking for reduced spending and in introducing the block grant system, and congratulated Conservative councils on their achievements.

Looking ahead to the county council elections on May 7, he said the conservatives were the only ones capable of challenging the left.

Mr Heseltine said the Government was elected to reduce spending, and local government could not be exempted. "I believe the targets we have set ourselves are reasonable in all the circumstances. There are no soft or cosy options".

Answering criticisms on the block grant, he said it would have been wrong to have delayed its introduction. Its benefits would be seen soon. A period of stability would enable councils to take advantage of the changes.

Local authorities had a good record of achieving targets except in the last year, and they were not responsible for the setting of the spending targets. But when the Government had set them, councils must achieve them, and they must do so in the voluntary climate that existed.

The system was worth preserving, but he had to persuade the bill payers that it was, and they were asking the Government to take more powers to control local expenditure.

Mr Heseltine urged councils to use outside accountants to help them to make savings. He pointed to the success of the government exercise in the water industry, where savings of £86m had been found in two weeks with the help of outside experts.

Mr Heseltine's emphasis on the need for the voluntary compliance by local authorities in making reductions was underlined by Mr Tom King, minister for local government, which clearly indicated the Government's concern that councils overall appear to be budgeting to overspend during the coming year.

The threat of further government action remained veiled, and Mr King would not be drawn on the question of whether outside accountants would be sent into authorities to find savings.

Delegates to the conference, particularly from London, complained about the effect of the block grant and the inevitable high rate increases it would mean.

Mr Nicholas Freeman, leader of Kensington and Chelsea, said it had complied with every government guideline but because of the Inner London Education Authority precept and the loss of grant, its increase would be 52.5 per cent. Had anybody told Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who lives in the borough, what her rate increase would be, he asked.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, told the conference he hoped that Sandwell councillors who dismissed Miss Joanna Harris for refusing to join a union would be surcharged if an industrial tribunal awarded her damages.

"No council ought to be allowed to get away with that sort of action", he said. Mr Prior added that until the passing of the Employment Act, Miss Harris would not have had any remedy over her dismissal, and that the Government would continue looking to see what other remedies were available.

His comments brought a strong reaction from Mr Frank Cooney, a member of Hereford and Worcester County Council, who said: "I am fed up with listening to your explanations. Grasp the nettle and get us rid of this evil." But Mr Prior defended his step-by-step approach to the Act.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, gave an assurance of support for council tenants who were delayed in their attempts to buy their homes.

He said: "The Government is not prepared to see those who have a wholly valid and wholly legitimate legal right to buy their homes, conferred on them by Parliament, being subjected to unreasonable delay, ceaseless frustration or outright political obstruction".

Tenants need be in no doubt that the Government would take what steps were necessary to see that those who had exercised their legal right to buy their homes did become home owners.

The low-key conference was enlivened by a visit from Mrs Thatcher during the lunch break to give Conservative councillors encouragement for the forthcoming elections.

Lord Thorneycroft, party chairman, also added his support. He told the delegates: "Do not pretend that the fight ahead is an easy one, but I want you to win it". He admitted that after two years the Government was unpopular, but there would be no U-turn.

Churches urge fast over public spending

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspon[dent]

As if in defiance of the P[rime] Minister's warning to churches not to descend [into] the political arena and [take] sides, the Church of Engl[and,] Methodist, and Roman Cat[holic] departments concerned [with] "social responsibility" [are] calling today for a "fast [for] justice in public expenditu[re".]

Mrs Margaret Thatc[her,] speaking at St Lawrence Je[wry] in the City of London last W[ed]nesday, said that if the ch[urches] took sides on practical is[sues] "this can only weaken the [in]fluence and independence [of] the church, whose mem[bers] ideally should help the th[ink]ing of all political parties[".]

Today the British Counci[l of] Churches is putting on sale [at] 5p, a prayer leaflet enti[tled] "Lenten Fast for Justice [in] Public Expenditure". A [day] of prayer and fasting for [the] cause is being organized [on] March 23 by the Board [for] Social Responsibility of [the] General Synod of the Churc[h of] England, the Division of So[cial] Responsibility of the Metho[dist] Conference, and the Social W[el]fare Commission of the Ro[man] Catholic Bishops' Conferenc[e of] England and Wales.

It was planned before [Mrs] Thatcher's address on Wednesday, but demonstr[ates] the gulf between her con[cep]tion of the churches' duty [and] their own.

The leaflet descends into [the] political arena to the exten[t of] discussing child benefit all[ow]ances, housing, unemploym[ent] and the level of overseas [aid.]

Dr William Johnston, mod[era]tor of the General Assembly [of] the Church of Scotland, [last] night described the Gove[rn]ment's economic policy [as] immoral to humanity and b[las]phemous in the sight of Go[d.]

In his sermon to the e[ve]ning service at St John's K[irk,] Perth, Dr Johnston sa[id:] "Accelerating unemploym[ent] reaches its saddest and m[ost] evil when it affects you[ng] people.

"Is there any econom[ic] theory that can justify t[he] derogation of human life a[nd] this dehumanizing of the in[di]vidual, to say nothing of t[he] time-bomb of resentment th[at] we set ticking into the future[?"]

Airline offer £99 return fare to US

By Arthur Reed
Air Corespondent

Return air fares of £99 fr[om] Gatwick airport and Manche[s]ter to New York are to b[e] offered on selected flights th[is] summer by Jetsave, a compa[ny] specializing in transatlant[ic] holidays.

That is the same price as th[e] cheapest single standby fare o[f] British Airways, Transwor[ld] Airlines and Panamerican Ai[r]ways, and is below the cheape[st] fare on Laker Airways, whi[ch] pioneered cutprice Atlan[tic] travel.

Jetsave said yesterday th[at] passengers paying £99 retu[rn] would be given free meals, wi[ne] and cocktails. There would al[so] be in-flight films.

The low fare will be availab[le] only on six departures in Ma[y,] June and October. Bookings, f[or] which full payment is requir[ed,] should be made three-and-a-h[alf] weeks in advance of travel.

Jetsave said that in the su[m]mer its normal "latesave" fa[re] would rise to £179, but claim[ed] that that would still be t[he] lowest return fare availab[le] compared with £190 on Lak[er] and £256 on BA, Panam a[nd] TWA.

Mr Reginald Pycroft, mana[g]ing director of Jetsave, sai[d:] "We decided to launch the[se] price-cutting fares at Budg[et] time to show people that pric[es] can come down, as well as [go] up".

Boat pledge sought

Mr David Clark, an oppo[si]tion spokesman on defenc[e,] yesterday demanded an assu[r]ance that the Governme[nt] would countermand the "pr[e]posterous and scandalous" su[g]gestion that five Royal Na[vy] patrol boats might be built i[n] Hongkong.

McAliskey poll entry hint

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Speculations is growing that Mrs Bernadette McAliskey, former MP for Mid Ulster, who was seriously wounded in a shooting in January, will contest the coming Fermanagh and South Tyrone by-election.

On Saturday she made her first public appearance since the attack, when she attended the funeral of Mr Frank Maguire, a close friend for many years, who had held the seat since 1974.

Mrs McAliskey used crutches and her right leg was in plaster. She has called a press conference for today to announce her plans, which will almost certainly include returning to an active role in the National H-Block Committee, which is organizing the protest campaign in support of Mr Bobby Sands, the IRA man who has been on hunger strike for a week.

She would have an excellent chance of winning the marginal seat, partly because the Unionist vote will be split between the rival parties and because the shooting has created a great deal of public sympathy for her.

Protestant jail: Chanting demonstrators picketed the maximum security Armagh jail in Northern Ireland yesterday demanding political status for 29 women prisoners (the Press Association reports).

Organizers said that 600 people from all over Europe attended the one-hour protest. The 29 women are refusing to carry out normal prison duties, but have interrupted a "dirty" protest to focus attention on Mr Sands' hunger strike.

He is backing the demand for political status for IRA prisoners.

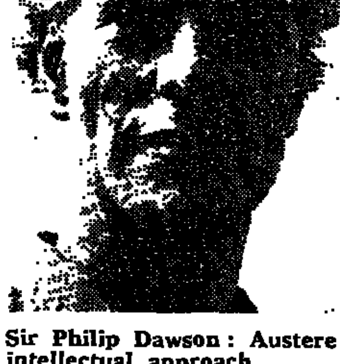
1981 Royal Gold Medal won by British architect

By Charles McKean

Sir Philip Dawson has won the 1981 Royal Gold Medal for architecture, an award which will be greeted with great pleasure internationally and by those interested in fine architecture.

The Royal Gold Medal is awarded annually on the recommendation of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Its recipients over the past century have included eminent figures (not necessarily architects) from all over the world.

Sir Philip is the senior partner of Arup Associates, the architects, a firm which was spawned by Ove Arup and Partners, engineers. Sir Ove Arup is a previous recipient of the medal.



Sir Philip Dawson: Austere intellectual approach.

Arup Associates have designed a corpus of modern buildings whose collective quality is possibly unmatched by any other British firm. Notable achievements include new buildings to St John's College, Oxford, Leckhampton House in Cambridge, the restoration of the Maltings at Snape, the University of East Anglia Music School, the new CEGB headquarters at Bedminster Down, Bristol, and Lloyds Underwriters, at the Gunwharf, Chatham.

Sir Philip once admitted that he had been greatly influenced by training in a carpenter's shop, with a resulting fascination in how things are put together, and in exposing all the joints. This background, coupled with an austere intellectual approach, explains much of his architecture.

It is not frivolous. Nor is it really fashionable. He is probably the modern British architect who most resembles Sir William Chambers, the eighteenth century British architect: no frills all brain.

Sale of BBC shows earns £2m

By A Staff Reporter

A four-day screening of BBC Television programmes for overseas buyers has resulted in sales totalling £2m, according to provisional figures released today.

The session attracted 142 buyers from 51 broadcasting organizations in 22 countries; four networks presented 100 hours of the latest BBC programmes and 600 cassettes were available for individual screening.

Drama and documentaries were among the best-sellers to Europe, including the play *Caught on a Train*: the serials *Sons and Lovers*, *To Serve Them All My Days* and *Forgive Our Foolish Ways*; the Escape series and the *Great Railway Journeys of the World*.

Mr Bryon Parkin, managing director of BBC Enterprises, said the figures were encouraging.

Oxford Union election

Miss Sandy Jones, aged 21, a languages and classics undergraduate at New College, Oxford, is to be president of the Oxford Union next term. She beat Mr Paul Darling, of St Edmund Hall, by 12 votes.

MP seeking to give prisoners rights on voting and court action over jail rules

By Frances Gibb

A private member's Bill is published today which would give prisoners the right to vote in elections and the right to bring a court action if the Prison Act or rules, which deal with such matters as loss of remission and solitary confinement, are breached by the authorities.

The Prisoners Rights Bill, drawn up by Mr Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Wandsworth, Battersea South, aims at consolidating those court rulings in the past few years which have given prisoners rights and at redressing the adverse effect of others.

It goes before Parliament on Wednesday under the 10-minute Bill rule if it is approved in principle, it will go on the list for debate.

Mr Dubs said: "The aim is to give a prisoner a chance to take action through the courts if he feels he is not getting the rights to which he is entitled. Prison authorities are less likely to ignore those rights if there is the threat that the prisoner may take legal action."

The Bill has the support in principle of the Howard League for Penal Reform, the National Council for Civil Liberties and the all-party parliamentary penal affairs group.

If made law, it would reverse a High Court ruling last year in which a prisoner tried unsuccessfully to sue the Home Office for his detention in a "special control unit" for troublemakers.

The judge found that although the prison rules had been breached in the way the prisoner was detained, that did not give him the right to sue. The court held that the rules relating to internal administration were a matter for the Home Office.

The nine-clause Bill would also give prisoners the right to be able to know the rules. Many do not, and therefore do not know when they have been breached.

Prisoners would be entitled to receive legal advice in confidence, without letters being opened, and to receive visits from lawyers. The Royal Commission on Legal Services noted the difficulties faced by prisoners who needed legal advice, not just over their conviction but on domestic and financial matters.

The Bill also gives prisoners certain basic rights when being disciplined by a Board of Visitors such as knowing the charge in advance, being legally represented and being able to call witnesses.

A prisoner would be entitled to know why he has a particular classification (for example, category A) and make representations against it. The courts have held that despite the profound implications of a classification, a prisoner cannot challenge it.

Other clauses give the right to vote, at the moment denied all prisoners however short term, and greater freedom of correspondence. The Government has been found in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights for censoring prisoners' mail and the European Commission is expected to make a second finding to that effect.

The National Council for Civil Liberties said yesterday: "This Bill is important not just for prisoners who have committed a major criminal offence but for the majority who are only in prison for a short time. We believe prisoners have certain basic rights and this Bill gives those rights the backing of the law".

Mr Martin Wright, director of the Howard league, said it was essential for the successful rehabilitation of prisoners in society for them to have been fairly treated when in prison. "In several important ways at present the law of the land stops at the prison gates and prisoners do not have access to it".

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the Commons penal affairs group, said the Bill would have the group's support.

Prisoners' rights, page 14

Rate protest rally attracts 1,000

By A Staff Reporter

About 1,000 Lambeth ratepayers attended a rally on Clapham Common, London, yesterday to protest against their council's proposed rate increases.

Speakers from local ratepayers' organizations claimed that public pressure and the threat of legal action to surcharge and disqualify members of the controlling Labour group had already obliged it to make economies of more than £11m, reducing tthe proposed rate inincrease from 57 per cent to 37 per cent.

The speakers said that was not enough, and demanded an increase of no more than 30 per cent in the coming year, and a promise of no increase at all the year after.

Lambeth's Labour councillors meet to discuss the rate increase tonight.

Soaring rate: Crawley Council in West Sussex, has approved a rise in the borough's rate of 97 per cent from 17.5p to 34.5p in the pound, which is one of the highest in the country.

One reason for the rate demand is the loss of the government's rate support grant because of the council's refusal to reduce public spending.

Shelter launches homes drive in Ulster

By a Staff Reporter

Shelter, the national campaign for the homeless, is launching a campaign in support of its new offshoot in Northern Ireland.

An article in the charity's magazine Roof, published today, says that nearly a third of houses in the province need immediate repair or renewal. More than three times as many houses as in England lack basic amenities.

More than a quarter of the unfit dwellings are concentrated in Belfast, and there is a heavy backlog of urgent repairs to public authority housing.

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive estimates that it should build 5,000 homes a year for the next 10 years.

Labour drive to woo black electorate as Tories claim some quiet success

by Lucy Hodges

The Labour and Conservative parties are setting out to woo the black electorate. In the past 18 months both have been making friends and trying to persuade local parties to consider black candidates.

Their tactics differ. Labour is publicly trying to respond to black needs, reshaping its policies and lobbying constituencies systematically. The Conservatives are quietly inviting Asians to parties and helping them with their individual difficulties.

The Labour Party will shortly be approaching all its regional organizers to persuade them to take action. There are signs that Labour is worried about its poor past performance in this area and about the headway the Conservatives have made.

A confidential survey carried out recently for Labour's human rights and race relations subcommittee showed that only a quarter of all constituency Labour parties that replied to a questionnaire took any action at election time to get in touch with ethnic minorities.

"The picture is a dismal one", the committee's report said. There were 132 replies to the questionnnaire out of 635 local parties, an average response. Only 8 per cent claimed to be doing anything special to recruit blacks.

The Conservatives have been more successful in welcoming blacks.

Mrs Norma Green, deputy chairman of the Greater London area Conservative Party, said great strides had been made in the past 18 months by some local parties. "You can go to a Conservative function and see quite a lot of racial mixing", she said. "There is an atmosphere of friendship."

Critics that approach say it is calculating and designed to appeal to the status-seekers in the ethnic minorities, rather than to present anything of substance to blacks.

The Conservatives have set up the Anglo-Asian Conservative Association and the Anglo-West Indian Conservative Association. Labour is not inclined to follow suit but it is determined to improve its image with blacks.

Foot backing: Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, yesterday endorsed a statement approved by the Greater London Labour Party conference that described the fire at Deptford, south London, on January 18 in which 13 young blacks died as "mass murder" and "a dastardly crime" (the Press Association reports).

One of the main tasks of the next Labour government would be to do everything in its power to root out the real causes of racialism, he said.

The fire led to black protests and clashes with the police on Monday last week. It has been alleged that the police have not properly investigated the cause of the fire because the victims were black.

The statement, made at the conference yesterday by Mr Arthur Latham, the chairman, expressed grief at the tragedy and said that the community had the right to be reassured that the maximum effort was being made to find those responsible.

"It needs to be made apparent that there is an investigation being conducted of a scale and intensity to match the seriousness with which the community rightly regards this dastardly crime."

Women oppose change in rape law

By a Staff Reporter

The Conservative Women's National Advisory Committee would oppose changes in the law to extend the offence of rape to include all cases where a husband has sexual intercourse with his wife without her consent.

It disagrees with the recommendation of the Criminal Law Revision Committee that the offence of rape should be extended to include "marital rape". It believes such a change would be impractical.

The committee has also come out against suggested changes in the law on incest. "The very strong moral, religious and genetic taboo on incest in society today could be destroyed by legalising the act for consenting adults", such as father and daughter or brother and sister, it says.

Modern art auction

An auction of contemporary art will be held at the Royal Academy this summer in aid of Artlaw Services, established in 1978 to provide legal advice to artists.

St John-Stevas attack on Arts Council cuts

By Our Theatre Reporter

Criticism of the Arts Council over its ending of grants to 41 organizations reached a new pitch yesterday with an attack by Mr Norman St John-Stevas, who was Minister for the Arts at the time of the cuts last December.

The council has received a welter of complaints about the cuts but many have been from companies which lost their grants. Mr St John-Stevas's condemnation may prove much more embarrassing.

In an article in *The Sunday Times*, he suggested that the council had appeared to act like the Star Chamber court. He described the manner in which the cuts were made as ill-judged and incompatible with those civilized values which the council rightly claimed to represent.

Complaining of the lack of any coherent justification for the change in policy, he said it was wrong to cut grants to the National Youth Orchestra, the National Youth Brass Band and the National Youth Theatre, criticized the treatment of the Old Vic Company and suggested the council ought to have given a grant to the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company.

School plan for jobless

A state allowance to keep all those aged between 16 and 19 in some form of educational training is to be recommended by the Central Policy Review Staff, the Government's "think tank".

It will suggest that the Government should consider removing the whole age group from the labour market to leave more jobs for adults.

Government plans are due to be announced next month to reform and expand the industrial training system. The proposal of the policy review staff extends the plan the Secretary of State for Employment is already considering to offer all school leavers a year of training.

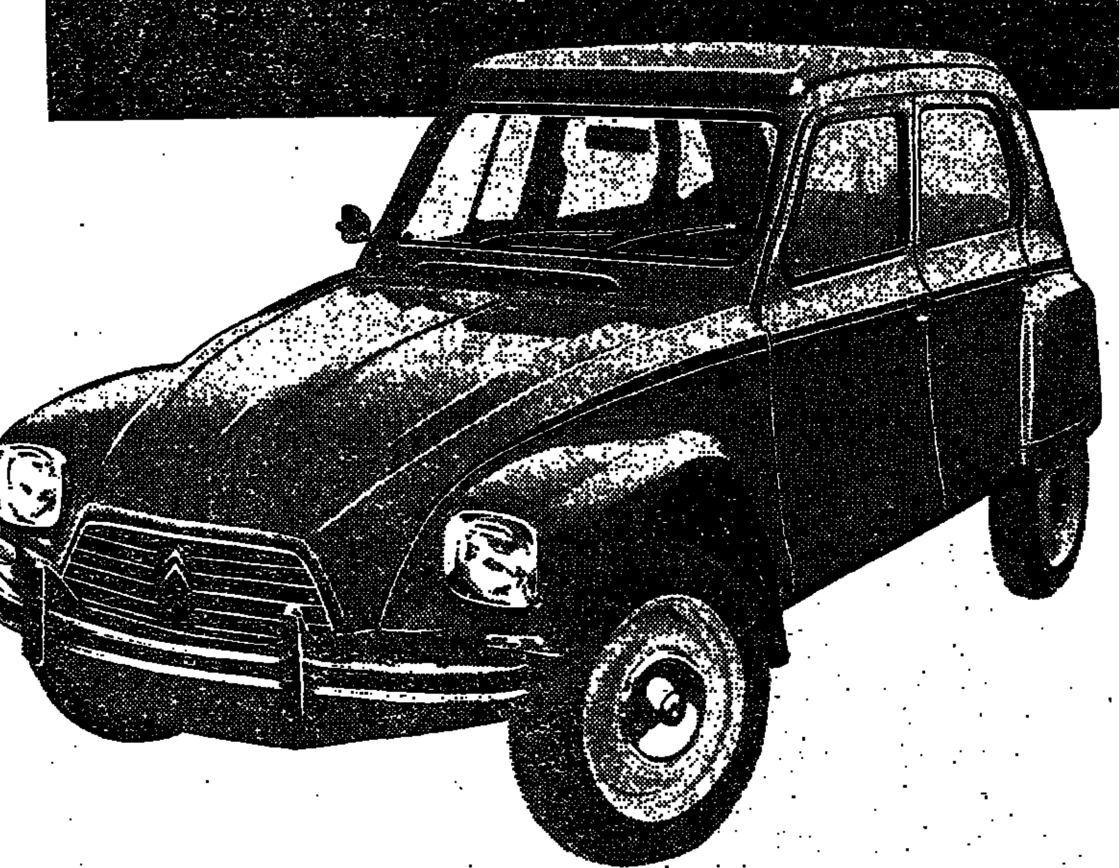
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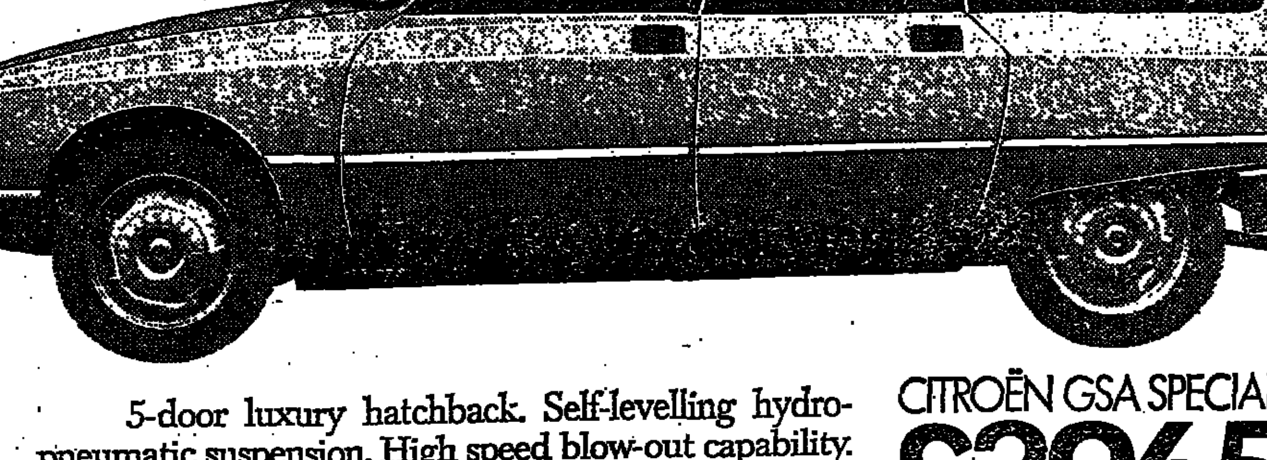




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Desperate Palestinian attempt to attack Israel by hang-glider

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 8

Palestinian guerrillas are resorting to increasingly unconventional methods of launching attacks inside Israel. Some of them have a Heath Robinson flavour despite the obvious deadly intent.

The new techniques are reminiscent of those resorted to by the Provisional IRA in the early 70s, when attempts were made to bomb targets from a helicopter carrying home-made bombs of high explosive stuffed into milk churns.

The most bizarre attack against Israel was foiled early yesterday after two Palestinians—one thought to be only 16 years old—attempted to cross the frontier from the hills of southern Lebanon using motorized hang-gliders equipped with explosives, guns and grenades.

The airborne mission ended in anti-climatic failure when the intrepid Arab aviators were separately discovered, exhausted and asleep. One was arrested by Israeli troops in western Galilee and the other inside south Lebanon by members of the militias headed by the renegade Major Saad Haadad.

Yesterday's attempted infiltration followed the raid last July when four Palestinians tried to cross the frontier in a hot-air balloon. All four were killed after the balloon caught fire and crashed into the rugged south Lebanese countryside.

Israeli security chiefs believe that the experimental methods now being employed by the Palestinians are proof of the highly effective counter-measures in operation against possible attacks from Lebanon by land or sea.

After the raid, the chief of staff, Lieutenant-General Rafael Eitan, warned Israel that more airborne infiltration attempts could be expected. But he played down the significance of the new flying machines, pointing out that they could carry only one man and were unreliable, especially at night.

Photographs of the captured hang-gliders showed that both were of the type which can be constructed from kits available on the open market. They were equipped with a small motor, which in theory should have enabled the guerrillas to return after completing their attack.

As it was, the hopelessly exhausted Palestinians both fell asleep in houses where they had forced entry after landing under cover of darkness. The man detained in south Lebanon was under the mistaken impression that he had crossed the frontier into Israel. A spokesman for Major Haaded later said that the Palestinian had planted a series of mines which he had carried on his glider, along with an AK47 rifle and some grenades.

The Palestinian arrested inside Israel told the family in an Arab village, from which he sought food, that he was on a suicide mission "to take hostages or to kill Israelis".

Sports-shop aircraft: The Palestinian "air force"—for that is what its propagandists have inevitably called it—consisted of just two hang-gliders, apparently bought through a sports wholesaler (Robert Fisk writes from Beirut).

The Iraqi-sponsored Arab Liberation Front (ALF), which has claimed responsibility for the raid, said the first glider—the one which actually crossed the Israeli frontier—weighed 170lb and carried a nine-horse-power engine with a speed of 37 miles an hour.

The second, which failed to reach Israel was a larger machine with a 15-horsepower engine, a speed of 55 miles an hour and a weight of 190lb.

The ALF said that both gliders were loaded with an automatic rifle, a rocket-firing device, 210 grenades and a number of explosive charges. They gave the names of the two guerrillas as Jumaa Khalaf, aged 26, and Abdul Halim Hafez. It made no reference to a "Turk" being involved in the raid, but Mr Hafez's birthplace was given as Aleppo, the northern Syrian city which is only 35 miles from the Turkish frontier.

The hang-gliding mission was named after Ghassan Kafi, the Palestinian who died when the hot air balloon in which he was attempting to fly into Israel last summer crashed.

Although the hang-gliding method of aerial attack is a novel tactic for the Palestinians, there are in fact many Palestinians in the more orthodox Arab air forces. The pilot who died when his Syrian MiG 21 jet was shot down over the Bekaa valley in Lebanon last month by Israeli jet fighters turned out to be a Palestinian. His photograph, name and details of his birth have been printed on posters and plastered around the bazaar in Damascus.

Opposition politicians detained in Pakistan

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad, March 8

A large number of arrests of opposition politicians, including Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the executed Prime Minister, have been reported from different cities in Pakistan in the past 24 hours.

A senior government official today claimed that the arrests had no connexion with the hijacking nearly a week ago of a Pakistani airliner to Kabul where three hijackers are still holding 112 passengers and crew as hostages.

[Party sources said that Mr Bhutto's daughter, Miss Benazir Bhutto, had been arrested at the home of Begum Ashraf Abbasi, the former Deputy Soeaker of the National Assembly, who was also detained, Reuter reports from Islamabad.]

Until late this evening there has been no official statement on the reported arrests; but political sources estimate that their number may be more than 50.

Among those arrested in Lahore were Mr Mazhar Ali Khan, editor of the English language weekly, *Viewpoint*, and his two editorial assistants, Dr Mubashar Hasan, Mr Bhutto's Finance Minister and a former secretary-general of the Pakistan People's Party, Mr Rao Rashid, a former Bhutto aide, and Mr Shoaib Hashmi, son-in-law of Mr Faiz Ahmad Faiz, a well-known Pakistani poet and Lenin peace prize winner.

Most of those arrested are described as leftists and belong to the Pakistan People's Party (which has been disbanded under martial law)

The arrests come after a number of other detentions since the beginning of the year.

Mrs Bhutto, as president of the People's Party founded by her husband, last month formed with eight other parties an alliance called Movement for Restoration of Democracy which demanded an end to martial law rule and general elections in three months.

Ironically, General Zia ul-Haq, Pakistan's military ruler, is forming a new Cabinet tomorrow with larger civilian representation. General Zia considers the reconstitution of his Cabinet as a step towards associating men of integrity and Islamic thinking with his Government.

President Bani-Sadr wearing a garland of flowers presented to him by his followers after the rally in Tehran on Thursday.

Khalkhali call to try President for treason

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, March 8

Iran's notorious former religious judge, Hojatoleslam Sadeq Khalkhali, today publicly demanded the trial of President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr for treason following a violent political rally in Tehran on Thursday.

Amid a national furore over the violence, mainly directed against the President, even one of Mr Bani-Sadr's own clerical supporters accused him of "Megalomania".

Speaking in Parliament this morning, Hojatoleslam Khalkhali declared: "There is no doubt in my mind that the President himself has committed treason against the constitution and therefore he must be put on trial."

At one point in his speech the hojatoleslam, who resigned as a religious judge after allegations of ordering indiscriminate executions and torture, tore up a copy of the newspaper *Islamic Revolution*, which supports the President.

The copy in question had printed pictures of identity cards taken from Muslim fundamentalists arrested last Thursday, often after a severe beating from supporters of the President, showing their membership of the revolutionary guards, security *Komitehs* and other organizations controlled by the country's hardline muslim factions.

Many of the cards were shown by the President to the huge crowd that had come to hear him speak at a rally to honour the memory of the late nationalist Prime Minister, Muhammad Mossadeq. Violence broke out after the President lost patience with the failure of the police to eject a crowd of disrupters and asked the public to arrest the troublemakers.

Hojatoleslam Khalkhali said today that by this act the President had shown himself to be guilty of "despotism . . . giving the order, being the judge, witness and so on." Although the feeling has never been reciprocated, the hojatoleslam has in the past been considered a supporter of the President, especially over the issue of the former American hostages.

Another recognized ally of the President, Hojatoleslam Muhammad Hojati Kermani, accused the President today of indulging in a "childish game" that only served to weaken his own position. "Unfortunately you have become a megalomaniac and if you are not able to overcome this disease then you and your country will be destroyed."

The last two days have been dominated by a cascade of statements over the issue, mostly against the President. Demonstrations have been reported in many places, including Qom, where newspapers reported a tense atmosphere following failed attempts by fundamentalists to force the bazaar to close.

The Interior Ministry issued an order declaring further demonstrations illegal. "Anyone engaged in such will be considered an enemy of Islam and the Islamic nation," it said.

The President himself has returned to the southern war zone to supervise the war effort. The country's religious leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, has refused any further meetings for a week.

Although no great lover of the President or the growing coalition of radical and nationalist groups that are surrounding him, the ayatollah has refused to join in the condemnation of the country's highest elected official.

Speaker's claim: The Speaker of the Iranian Parliament alleged today that supporters of the radical Mujahiedien organization had occupied the governor's office in Labijan, on the Caspian coast, and declared the city independent (Reuter reports from Tehran).

Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, a founder member of the fundamentalist Islamic Republican Party, told Parliament: "Dirty groups that are fed from the Soviet Union have declared their independence, occupied the Governor's office and closed the schools of the city."

Iraqi attack: Iraqi ground and air forces went into action for the second day against Iranian targets after Iran's rejection of peace proposals by Islamic nations (AP reports from Nicosia).

An Iraqi war communiqué broadcast by Baghdad radio indicated that fierce fighting was continuing along the battle-fronts.

New peace move: A leading Palestinian representative will visit Tehran and Baghdad in the next few days for follow-up talks on Islamic attempts to end the war, according to Palestinian sources today (Reuter reports from Beirut).

His visits would precede a new series of visits to Iran and Iraq by an Islamic mediation committee.

In brief

American shot dead in Bogota

Bogotá, March 8.—Colombi Trotskyist guerrillas have sł dead Mr Chester Allen Bitt man, an American, aged who worked for the Summ Institute of Linquistics, a c troversial United States r gious organization.

His body was found in hijacked bus wrapped in flag of the M19 (Movement April 19) guerrilla group. was kidnapped here on Janua 19 by hooded gunmen, w demanded the closure of t institute.

Britons killed

Cavaillon, southern Franc March 8.—A British couple holiday and a Frenchman we killed when two cars crash near here yesterday, police sa The Britons were named as Michael Frostick, aged 63, a his wife Denise, of Hawtho Close, Chichester, Sussex.

41 held in Jerusalem

Jerusalem, Marcvh 8.—Aft one of the worst clash between ultra-orthodox Je and Israeli police, a total of of Jerusalem's religious zeal are under arrest, includi Rabbi Uri Blau, spiritual lead of the extreme Neturai Kar sect.

Conductor dies

Amsterdam, March 8.—Ki Kondrashin, Soviet-born condu tor of the Amsterdam Conce gebouw orchestra, died he last night after a heart atta at the age of 67, an official the orchestra said.

Arab bank to reopen

Tel Aviv, March 8.—The mi tary Government in Gaza toda withdrew its objections to r opening the Palestine Ban under its original name. Th Arab-owned bank ceased tra ing after the Six-Day War i 1967 when its asets were froze

Women arrested

Moscow, March 8.—Polic arrested 11 women Pentacost lists, members of a Protesta religious sect, as they demo strated outside the Lenin Li rary in central Moscow today International Women's Day for the right to emigrate to th West.

Argentines released

Buenos Aires, March 8.—S Argentine human rights cam paigners arrested last week o charges of violating nation security laws have been free by a federal judge.

Match goes on with no sign of kidnap player

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, March 8

One of Spain's most popular footballer players was still missing as his team took the field for a crucial game here today, in spite of the fact that officials of the Barcelona football club, for which he plays, were reported to have paid his kidnappers 100m pesetas (£529,000).

Barcelona's leading goal scorer, Enrique Castro, aged 31, known as "Quini" vanished a week ago in Barcelona after a match. Officials of the football club admitted later that they had received a recording of his voice and said arrangements had been made to pay the ransom.

Hopes that he might be released in time to play in today's match between Atletico de Madrid and Barcelona were dashed when the Barcelona team took the field.

Jews blamed for Poland's ills at Warsaw rally

Warsaw, March 8.—Between 1,000 and 1,500 people gathered here today in a nationalist, antisemitic demonstration to coincide with the anniversary of the student riots of March, 1968.

In another demonstration, a similar number of students and teachers met at Warsaw University to commemorate the riots and the students' demands in 1968 for more democracy and a freer press. At the time the Polish press blamed the riots on "Zionists".

A previously unknown group, the Grunwald Patriotic Union—named after the Polish victory in 1410 at Grunwald (Tannenberg) over the Teutonic Knights—organized the nationalist demonstration. Although officially in memory of the victims of Stalinism, it was manifestly directly against today's student demonstration.

Informed sources said the new organization includes members of a Warsaw group of communist intellectuals, Warszawa 80; militants of a veterans' association; former members of the wartime non-communist Home Army; and Roman Catholics linked with the Government.

Speakers, who included Mr Bogdan Poreba, a film director, argued that the main hangmen during the Stalinist period in Poland were Jews, and that this justified the 1968 "anti-Zionist" campaign during which thousands of Polish Jews were forced to emigrate.

To loud applause, speakers declared that the Solidarity free trade union movement must be Polish only and suggested that the dissident group KOR was Zionist and anti-Polish.

Mr Jacek Kuron, the KOR leader, who was detained by police last week and warned that he faced possible charges of slandering the nation, addressed the students in a packed auditorium at Warsaw University.

He said there had been many Jews in the party apparatus in the early years after the war but the notion of equating Jews with the Stalinist terror was just an expedient for ascribing disasters to alien forces.

He said the main difference between all previous popular protests in Poland and last summer's labour revolt was that the events of 1980 created grass-roots democratic institutions.

But he warned his audience obliquely that a threat of Soviet military intervention still hunv over Poland and he advised moderation.

Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the Solidarity union announced today that he is to meet General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, tomorrow. He issued a seven-point list of issues they would discuss.

Moscow warning: In a clear warning to Poland's independent trade union leaders, the Soviet party newspaper, *Pravda* today quoted Lenin as saying that trade unions should accept the supremacy of the Communist Party.—Agence France-Presse, Reuter and UPI.

Leading article, page 13

Russian diplomat expelled from Spain for spying

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, March 8

A Soviet diplomat made a hasty departure for Moscow this weekend after the Spanish Government denounced him as a spy and gave him 24 hours to get out of the country.

Mr Vladimir Illich Efremenrov, a vice-consul at the embassy in Madrid, was the seventh diplomat or Soviet government employee to be expelled from Spain for espionage activities since diplomatic relations between Madrid and Moscow were resumed in February, 1977.

His departure was preceded a few weeks ago by that of another Soviet spy who left hurriedly, but voluntarily, when his cover was blown, informed sources said. He was Mr Yuri Goloviatenko, a correspondent for the Soviet news agency Novosti.

The expulsion of Mr Efremenrov was decided here last Friday at the first Cabinet meeting of the new Government headed by Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo.

Diplomatic sources indicated that he tried to buy military secrets from a Spanish double agent. He had contact with an extremist organization, the Movement for the Autonomy and Independence of the Canary Islands, and he gathered confidential information on Spanish politicians and political parties.

Informed sources said the level and scope of his activities suggest that he is a high-level agent of the KGB, possibly the most important Soviet spy yet discovered in Spain. His clandestine work has been under surveillance for some time past and there is photographic evidence of him receiving sensitive information.

The decision to expel him was apparently made at this time because a Spanish double agent who dealt with him was at the point of being discovered by the Soviet intelligence services.

The monarchist daily *ABC* said here today that there may be new developments in the near future with regard to "the complex of Soviet firms in Spain.

Back on duty: About 80 of the estimated 200 civil guards who held Spain's parliament at gunpoint as part of an attempted coup last month returned to their homes and regular duties this weekend, according to a Spanish news agency and the Madrid daily *El Pais*.

This appears to reflect one of the conditions which the authorities were reported to have agreed with Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, who led the takeover of Parliament, when he surrendered—that the civil guards and NCOs would not be prosecuted.

Former Premier of Dominica on coup plot charge

Bridgetown, March 8.—Miss Eugenia Charles, Prime Minister of Dominica, announced yesterday she had ordered the arrests of Mr Patrick John, the former Premier, and Major Frederick Newton, the Defence Force Commander, for plotting a coup.

Others arrested included Mr Dennis Joseph, former Director of Broadcasting and Information, and Corporal Howell Piper, the Prime Minister said in a broadcast monitored in Barbados.

Miss Charles said they would all be tried for planning a coup that she said was to have taken place on March 14. "I would hope that death would be the penalty; but I can't say that for sure", she added.

She declared a state of emergency on February 13 after a band of Rastafarians kidnapped Mr Edward Honeychurch, a farmer whose son, Lennox, is the chief government spokesman.

He is still being held by members of the religious cult.—AP.

Japanese to breed wild animals for the hunters

From Peter Hazelhurst
Toyko, March 8

A club of more than 400,000 Japanese hunters plans to breed wild animals and birds in large numbers at special farms for the purpose of hunting, because the country's game population has been seriously depleted in recent years.

The Dainippon Hunting Association, one of the biggest clubs of its kind in Japan, has announced it will open its first experimental breeding farm on five hectares of land near Tokyo.

Club officials say they decided to breed wild game because the number of birds shot by the association's 400,000 members dropped by 1,576,000 to 7,426,000 in 1978.

In the same year the number of bears, weasels and other wild animals killed by hunters fell by 196,000 to 779,000.

The association hopes to start with artificial breeding of 10,000 pheasants, 100 weasels and other small animals. The experimental station will also import 100 Hungarian partridges from the United States

"We plan to breed them until the population swells. The birds and animals will b released in reserved huntin grounds in Yamanashi prefecture", an official said.

But the champions of wild life protection are up in arm "Hunters are going too fa when they begin to bree animals with the purpose of shooting them down later f amusement", Mr Masayos Kimura, a supporter of tl Japan Animal Welfare Societ says.

The issue of wildlife conse vation has become such sensitive subject recently th the entire Cabinet decided t turn down an invitation t participate in the Imperi Household's traditional annu duck-hunt this year.

A recent public outcry als forced the Government to dro a plan to destroy thousands of protected pigeons, which hav settled in the eaves and rafte of the famous Sesoji temple Asakusa, in Tokyo.

Prisoners of conscience

Korea: Kim Tong Son

By Caroline Moorehead

After the assassination of President Park Chung Hee in the autumn of 1979 tight restrictions were imposed on newspapers and broadcasting. The severest, Martial Law Regulation No 10, involved the submission of all news reports to the military censors.

The Journalists' Association of Korea protested to the military authorities that this form of censorship was being used to manipulate public opinion. They threatened to stop submitting articles for inspection and full martial law was declared.

Kim Tong Son, aged 37, editor of the journal of the Journalists Association, was arrested and charged with "unauthorised publishing of printed material".

At a court martial on August 2, 1980, he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment. A fellow member of the Journalists Association was given a one-year sentence.

Angry mood for sea law meeting

By Marcel Berlins

The latest session of the Law of the Sea Conference starts in New York today in an atmosphere of confusion and anger, resulting from a decision by the Reagan Administration to review several important agreements negotiated over the past seven years of talks.

It was hoped that the New York session would be the last: and that a law of the sea Convention would be formally signed later this year or in early 1982. Although some hard bargaining was expected on the few remaining issues, most of the 140 or so countries participating in the talks were optimistic that the end was in sight.

Last week, however, a statement from the State Department referred to "serious problems" on the deep-sea mining provisions of the draft convention, and made it clear that the negotiations were not to be brought to finality until the new Administration had reviewed its policy on deep-sea mining.

There is no chance that the negotiations can be completed at the New York session: but the effects may be even more drastic.

It is possible that the Reagan Administration's approach could scupper the talks altogether, so destroying hard-won agreements on a wide range of maritime topics, and making it impossible for the convention to come into being.

There has been predictably strong reaction from Third World countries, and from the Soviet Union. Tass said that the new American position proved Washington's unreliability as a partner in international negotiations.

Even the head of the United States delegation to the Law of the Sea Conference under the Carter Administration, Mr Elliot Richardson, who is now a government adviser, gave a warning of the consequences of a reversal of policy.

He said that the 320-clause convention was a delicate balance of compromises. "Anyone who thinks that all we have to do is take a harder line to get a better result is unaware of the history of these negotiations", he said. He feared that other important aspects of the treaty would be jeopardized if the United States hardened its demands on deep-sea mining.

Mr Richardson pointed out that since 1977, only 15 of the 130 revisions to various drafts of the deep-sea mining part of the treaty, were unfavourable to the United States.

The Reagan Administration's hard line has come about in response to pressure from United States mining interests, which have been complaining that the arrangements laid down in the text of the draft convention would seriously inhibit them from investing in deep-sea mining.

The convention envisages a complicated system in which the mining for manganese nodules—which contain rich deposits of cobalt nickel and copper—would be conducted by mining consortiums from Western industrialized countries, partly for their own profit, but also for the benefit of poorer nations.

An international sea-bed authority would be set up to control, license and supervise the mining and to ensure that the developing world got its fair share of revenue from it.

The mining consortiums feel, however, that the system is weighted against them. They alone have the technology to mine on the ocean floor, but fear that the arrangements under the convention would severely limit their ability to make profits, and make them vulnerable to political decisions by the new authority.

The United States and West Germany have already passed laws allowing the mining companies to begin operations pending the coming into force of the Law of the Sea Convention, and similar legislation is going through Parliament at Westminster.

These legislative moves have already been the subject of considerable criticism by the Group of 77, representing Third World countries.

US 'realism' heartens South Africans

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, March 8

The South African Government appears to have shrugged off Friday night's United Nations General Assembly vote for comprehensive sanctions against it.

Sources in Pretoria are convinced that the western powers, having abstained on Friday, will use their veto if a sanctions resolution is put before the Security Council next month.

The unyielding line adopted by South Africa at the conference on Namibia in Geneva last January was largely based on the belief that the five western members of the contact group (Britain, the United States; France, West Germany and Canada) wanted to avoid a commitment to sanctions at almost any cost.

South African officials now believe this view has been confirmed.

The South Africans are generally satisfied with the events of last week.

They have also been heartened by the "realistic" position adopted by President Reagan towards South Africa in a television interview last week. That interview also strengthened South African hopes that American policy will be more sympathetic than it was under President Carter.

Zimbabwe gives warning to whites after brawl

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, March 8

The Zimbabwe Government yesterday issued a warning to whites who, it said had failed to adjust to the new circumstances in the country. This came after an incident in which a multiracial group of delegates to an education conference were harassed and chased from a Salisbury nightclub.

The group attempted to leave "Samantha's", a popular night-spot, after they were jostled and threatened by a gang of whites believed to be soldiers and airmen. Two delegates, an Australian and a Botswanian, were beaten up outside and stones were hurled at the others as they fled.

Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister of Information and Tourism, yesterday deplored the harassment of "distinguished guests". He said: "The Government will soon take stern measures to stamp out organized groups of white thugs and hooligans who are responsible for numerous assaults and unruly behaviour at hotels, nightclubs and restaurants in Salisbury and Bulawayo.

"Whites who think they are still living in Rhodesia will soon find their way into Zimbabwe's jails."

Butter deal is held up by Italian objection

From Our Own Correspondcı
Brussels, March 8

New arrangements for th export of New Zealand butte to Britain, as well as othe agricultural measures agreed i principle by the EEC las month, still have not been pu into effect because of conti uing Italian opposition.

Italy's difficulty concerns th size of the sugar productio quota it has been allotte under the new EEC suga regime, which also forms par of the package of measures Everything else in the packag has been agreed by the Italians

El Salvador killings described

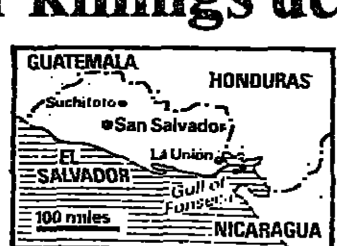
Continued from page 1

and most have dysentery. Some are naked and all are filthy from the foul smelling dust everywhere. Thin dogs scurry in packs and poultry peck for food. A girl aged 13 breast-fed her 40-day-old baby.

Women have stories of how their husbands were shot by death squads or the Army. "Ten days ago the Army came and took us from our houses", a thin young woman in a black dress said. (Nobody on either side will give his or her name through fear of reprisal.) "They took my husband and shot him in front of me and the children. They thought he was helping the guerrillas".

Other tales are worse. "They killed my daughter", said a woman in a flower print dress and a pink mop cap. "She was down grinding corn for *tortillas*. They just killed her for fun."






The camp is run by the Green Cross, a local charitable organization. The secretary arrived on a white horse carrying a broad white flag with a green cross on it. "For security", he explained.

He said that the camp was desperately short of medicine to treat the sick children. They needed doctors; medical treatment is given by students. They needed tents to shelter the refugees when the rains come in May.

Next morning, on a return visit, we arrived at about the same time as the Salvadorean Air Force. Three fighter aircraft circled the hills round the camp, dropping bombs and strafing the undergrowth about three miles away.

The difficulty the Army face is that even when they do clear guerrillas from a town, they have to garrison it or the leftists return.

Shortage of manpower does not allow every town to be defended. So the war ebbs and flows, with neither side able to take a decisive advantage.

Eric Heffer, and Diary, page 12

Brezhnev letter to Herr Schmidt viewed as attempt to sway Americans during Genscher visit

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 8

A *letter from President* Brezhnev to Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, has arrived in Bonn just before the start of important consultations *between the United States* and its key European ally.

The Germans have declined to disclose its contents but it is believed to be about Mr *Brezhnev's declarations* at the Soviet Party Congress and the talks involving Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign Minister, which begin in Washington *tomorrow*.

It seems that the Soviet leader hoped to use the West Germans' much greater sensitivity towards the Soviet Union as a lever with President Reagan's Administration.

East-West relations and arms controls, which took an important place in Mr Brezhnev's *recent speech, will be central* issues in Mr Genscher's discussions with President Reagan, Mr *Alexander Haig the Secretary* of State, and other American leaders.

The Germans know their views go against the much *tougher, more self-assertive* public mood in America at present and that they diverge from what little is so far known of the Administration's own *position*.

Over the next two months the Germans will be trying hard to influence and moderate the new American foreign policy while it is still being shaped on these and other matters.

With West Germany's exposed position on the East-West border, its heavy investment in détente, its strategic dependence on the United States and its increasingly critical left wing, *much is at stake*. Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Economics Minister, is already in Washington, Herr Hans Apel, the Defence Minister, goes later this month. Herr Schmidt pays a visit in May.

Herr Genscher will press *hard for restoration* of the military balance in Europe, at present tipped strongly in favour of the Soviet Union by its new SS20 missiles. But he *will give a strong warning* against any attempt by the United States to aim for superiority, firmly believing that any imbalance creates insecurity.

Herr Genscher: Seeks return of the military balance.

The Germans have firmly rejected Mr Brezhnev's proposal of a freeze on medium range nuclear weapons Euromissiles—because *it would perpetuate* the East's huge advantage. But he will press for further talks on a balanced reduction of these weapons.

The *impression here* is that the United States is scarcely interested in negotiations until it has actually caught up with the Soviet Union. But for the Germans, whose towns and cities are threatened, it is vital that these numbers be reduced to the lowest possible level.

Herr Genscher is acting under strong domestic pressure, *particularly from within* Herr Schmidt's Social Democratic Party (SDP) many of whom would no longer support the deployment of new Nato Euromissiles unless accompanied by negotiations.

The Minister can expect hard *questioning about this increasing* resistance to the government's defence policy and the vague mood of pacifism among the German left.

Officials say he will point to last October's election results and a recent opinion poll which show that most people are firmly behind the government. The protests, although vocal, come only from a small minority.

Nevertheless senior Foreign Ministry officials are so concerned about the new scepticism that they feel compelled to go about the country like politicians convincing people how vital the policy is for West Germany's security.

Herr Genscher (and this is where *Mr Brezhnev's* letter probably comes in) is expected to ask President Reagan to take up the Soviet leader's offer of a summit meeting.

While the Americans do appear inclined to teach the Soviets a lesson after Afghanistan, the Germans are anxious to get East-West relations back to normal. Although the word détente is no longer heard so frequently here, the security of Berlin, links with East Germany, East-West cooperation and the defusing of tension are extremely important to Bonn.

Herr Genscher is braced for possible demands by the United States that West Germany *should take part* in an intervention force or a military presence in the Gulf. Mrs Margaret Thatcher's declarations of willingness were greeted with wry grins and the comment "It is all right for her to say things like that."

For the Germans it would create very difficult political problems.

They can do a lot, they feel, to support efforts in central Europe should the United States have to intervene in a crisis.

Huge sales of arms to Saudi Arabia, which the Government felt could be an important *contribution, are in doubt* because of opposition within the SDP. But West Germany will continue to provide substantial aid, trade and diplomatic support to endangered countries in the "arc of crisis" around Afghanistan, *Turkey, Pakistan and the Gulf* states.

Herr Genscher goes to Washington with some optimism. The German leaders believe the unpredictability and amateurishness of the Carter years are over and are *delighted* that President Reagan is consulting his allies and not rushing into policy decisions.

They are also pleased at the appointment of Mr Haig who, unlike many Washington politicians, understands the problems *and complexities of Europe*. But they have no illusions that there are fundamental differences between Washington and Bonn


M Mitterrand leaving East Germany on Thursday after visiting the former Nazi labour camp from which he escaped

M Mitterrand derides the 'outgoing' President

From Charles Hargrove
Beauvais, March 8

M François Mitterrand, the *Socialist candidate, plunged this* weekend into the presidential election campaign with undiminished vim and vigour, astonishing in a man of 64 with *three unsuccessful attempts to* win the presidency behind him.

He opened his offensive against President Giscard d'Estaing in Beauvais, north of *Paris, one of the many larger* towns which the Left wrested from the majority in the 1977 municipal elections. At a public meeting, the first of 24, he will *hold throughout the country* between now and polling day, he pulled no punches.

He spoke for one and a half hours before an audience of *3,000 or so, most of them* Socialist sympathizers, gathered in a big tent in the town centre. Frequently he was interrupted by rhythmic shouts of "Mitter*rand—President*". *Giving a* dazzling display of all the resources of his oratory, grave, ironic, poetic, even playful, candid and confidential, he *switched* from indignation to pathos—with occasional lapses into bathos. And he concentrated all his attacks on what he called "the outgoing candidate".

Sublimely he ignored M Georges Marchais and the Communists, except indirectly when he pointed out that he was "a free man, and no one has any ties on me". No force in the world, he declared, apart from *his convictions and his love for* his country, would weigh on his decisions when he had the responsibility of running France.

On May 10, the choice would be between the candidate of the Right, and the Socialist candidate, he emphasized; between a "broken line" and the Socialist Party line. "We are, and we shall be more and more in coming weeks, the left".

He took M Giscard d'Estaing to task for insisting, as he did in his television broadcast a week ago, that a victory of the Left would spell disorder for the country. "But *we have disorder now*, with 1,700,000 unemployed", he exclaimed. "For the outgoing candidate, disorder begins when he runs the risk of losing his job. Technocrats often speak of the need for mobility of labour. That is all I wish for *him," he added to gales of* laughter.

He had also heard the "outgoing candidate" say he wished to bring all Frenchmen together *and unite the country*— "but he doesn't do so by dividing them in two, with the good one *side and the bad on the other*". As Napoleon III had once said,

French Presidential Election

let the bad tremble, and the good be reassured.

"Before announcing his candidature, he should have submitted his record—and presented his excuses. And then he *should have withdrawn from the* stage on tiptoe, hoping he might be forgotten", the Socialist *leader added*. "*Unfortunately*, if he is reelected, it will spell three million unemployed for France. Speeches can create an illusion, but the reality is there. Frenchmen will refuse to perpetuate seven years of misery.

M Mitterrand also singled out for a display of righteous indignation the "President-candidate's" onslaught against political parties in his article a week ago in *Le Figaro* magazine. "*Rarely has an elected* head of state", he declared, "indulged in such an aggression against *one of the country's* institutions, solemnly recognized by the Constitution of 1958.

"*I am proud* to have been chosen by the Socialist Party to be their candidate", he continued, "and the role of the Socialist candidate is to speak for the masses of this country; and when elected, to speak for all Frenchmen and women." M *Giscard d'Estaing had founded* his own party, but he had lost it. And now he was going about looking for it with a lantern, like Marshal de Soubise looking for his army.

The Giscardian UDF party felt rather orphaned these days, *M Mitterrand went on*. It was trying in another place (it had a congress in Paris on Saturday) to work out how it could support its candidate, without, in deference to his express wish, appearing to act as his party.

Unemployment will clearly be the central theme of this election campaign. A week after M Giscard d'Estaing had done the same, M Mitterrand gave it much play in his speech. He outlined once again his six-point plan to increase the number of jobs, including reflation of the economy, reduction in working hours, recruiting 200,000 extra civil servants, and, more surprisingly, encouraging medium and small enterprises. Initiative must be rewarded, he emphasized, and those who *created jobs must* enjoy the fruits of their efforts.

Deputy chief of Malta opposition to be charged

From Our Correspondent
Valletta, March 8

Dr Guido de Marco, the deputy leader of Malta's opposition Nationalist Party, is to be charged with making false public accusations against Mr Dom Mintoff, the Prime Minister, and leading police officers.

The action follows a speech he made last Sunday in which he referred to a case against some journalists charged in connexion with the throwing of a bomb at a group *of industrialists*.

The editor and a reporter of the independent *Times of Malta* and the editor and a reporter of *the Nationalist Party newspaper, In Nazzjon Taghna*, have been accused of spreading false information and hindering police investigations.

Dr de Marco is to be charged before Dr Anton Depasquale, a magistrate, tomorrow with hav*ing in public falsely accused* Mr Mintoff (as Minister for the Police); Dr Lawrence Pullicino, Police Commissioner; and Inspectors Gaetano Pace and Angelo Farrugia of "bad acts in administration of Government".

The charge alleges that his words had wrongly suggested that the arrest of the journalists was a threat against the freedom of the press and that he wrongly maintained that democracy and freedom was also threatened.

The government Department of Information said that steps were being taken against the *Times of Malta* and *In Nazzjon Taghna* for publishing the de Marco speech.

Last Sunday Dr de Marco, after referring to the bomb *incident and its coverage in* newspapers, said the police had taken the editor and reporter of *In Nazzjon Taghna* to police headquarters in the middle of the night. He added he could not understand why it had to be done at night.

Police later arrested the editor and a reporter of the *Times of Malta*, he said, not because they had thrown the bomb, but because they had published what reliable sources had seen and reported on them.

He emphasized that the free *press would not be intimidated* or destroyed by such police tactics as arresting men in the middle of the night when they could be detained by day.

This morning the Nationalist weekly, *Il-Mument*, carried a statement by the Nationalist *parliamentary group under* a headline "Solidarity With de Marco".

The statement said the group was meeting today to study the implications of the steps taken by police against Dr de Marco.

"Measures such as these will *not prevent the Nationalist* parliamentary group from further expressing itself on anything it considers is carried out abusively and that must be explained to the public", it said. "Nothing can succeed in muzzling Nationalist Members *of Parliament*."

Athenians still fleeing from earth tremors

Athens, March 8.—Athenians *refused* to accept assurances *from seismologists and govern*ment officials yesterday that the worst of the earthquakes was over. Instead, they flocked to the countryside by the thousands.

More than 100 tremors shook the city during the weekend, many of them registering up to 5.7 on the Richter Scale. The strongest struck at 1.35 pm yesterday and was followed, minutes later, by a 5.2 strength tremor.

More than 100,000 vehicles have left Athens since yesterday morning. Although many families had planned to leave the capital to enjoy the Mardi Gras carnival weekend in the country, thousands of others *fled in a panic*.

All the tremors were centred in the Gulf of Corinth, 40 miles west of Athens where the first strong earthquake, registering 6.6 on the Richter Scale, hit the area on February 24, killing 18 people and causing serious damage.

The Seismological Institute said the tremors showed a decline in number and intensity and that aftershocks will continue for several weeks, *but are* unlikely to cause serious damage to houses and offices.—*UPI*.

Corsican attacks

Montpellier, France, March 8.—*Corsican nationalists claimed* responsibility for six bomb explosions last night that slightly injured six people and caused extensive damage to banks and an *information centre* here last night.

Admiral says navy will assist Nato by ensuring Mediterranean stays a zone of stability

Italy shoulders peacekeeping task

From Peter Nichols
Rome, March 8

Admiral Giovanni Torrisi, chief of the defence staff, rules out any possibility of Italy taking part in a rapid deployment *force of the kind Mrs* Thatcher talked about with President Reagan for policing the Gulf. Instead he sees a more subtle role for Italy which will give the Navy plenty to do in the Mediterranean.

"We are not just discovering the *Mediterranean" he says to* the view that Italy is devising a new approach to the area. Italian interest in the Mediterranean has been growing for *some months* as a matter of policy.

Last autumn's agreement guaranteeing Malta's security is normally taken to be one of the most convincing proofs of Italian intentions. So are Italian efforts in foreign policy to *remain on* the best possible terms with countries which supply a large part of Italy's energy requirements.

About 60 per cent of fuel imports come from the Mediterranean and 85 per cent of Italian imports come by sea.

Admiral Torrisi accepts the importance of the Mediterranean to Italy as a fact of life and also sees it as a possible zone of conflict because of the divisions among the 300 million people who live around its shores.

Some, he says, belong to Nato, others are close to the Warsaw Pact while others are former colonies with a strongly nationalistic *spirit and sudden wealth*.

But he does not see current international tensions taking the form of a head-on confrontation between the Nato alliance and Russia.

"Nato can concern itself with events elsewhere, such as the *problem of the Gulf and the* invasion of Afghanistan because the policy of the two superpowers seems now to be that of seeking weak points where they can make themselves felt.

"It is in this context, where a conflict need not necessarily be of catastrophic proportions but remain localized, that the Mediterranean could easily be the scene of an outbreak because of its instability. Italian *interests are to* keep the situation as stable as possible."

As part of Italy's obligations to Nato he sees one of *Italy's* tasks as trying to make up for the absence of about a third of the American sixth fleet.

There was no truth in press reports *that Naples was being* considered as the logistical base for the projected rapid deployment force—"nothing so far has changed at all in the normal routine that we have followed for years . . . the Americans have not asked, not even bilaterally, for a *reinforcement* of existing logistical support, and I do not see change.

"They already have more or less the support they need and it would be difficult to have more."

Italian capability would not be sufficient to take the navy *outside the Mediterranean* area: "When they ask us why we do not want to participate in the Gulf project, it is because the few ships we have we use more in the Mediterranean so that we have as strong as presence as possible within the *framework of the alliance*."

Apart from obligations arising from the alliance, a specific policy was necessary to attempt to keep the Mediterranean stable.

"Many countries see in Italy a country with an advanced technology, a country *which is* not like a superpower which, when it arrives, behaves as a bull in a china shop, but a country with no intention to *dominate*", the admiral says.

"It has simply this concept of penetration, to bring a certain type of *culture, its tech*nology, the capacity of its people into a world which certainly needs these things—and above all I mean countries on *the shores of the* Mediterranean."

The military version of this policy is to cultivate relations by visits and offers of facilities for training. About 30 per cent of the pupils at the Livorno Military Academy are for*eigners, many* from Mediterranean countries.

The admiral feels, and he has *discussed it with the Ameri*cans, that activities aimed at stabilizing a particular and potentially dangerous zone fit into the aims of the alliance.

West Germany faces arms shortage

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, March 8

West Germany's defence spending is severely handicapped by inflation, world prices and fluctuating rates of exchange, according to Herr Hans Apel, the Defence Mini*ster, who met military com*manders for a three-day conference.

He said in Bonn yesterday that 1800 Leopard 2 tanks, 322 *Tornado fighters and six multi*-purpose frigates will be provided for the forces as scheduled but orders for new arms systems will be postponed or cancelled altogether.

The delay or cancellations of *these orders will reduce the* shortfall of DM2,300m (about £489m) for defence purposes for 1982-84 to about DM1,000m.

How the defence deficit will be met is anyone's guess. Herr Hans Matthöfer, the Finance Minister, yesterday repeated his *refusal to solve the financial* problems of the forces by tax increases.

The shortfall in the present five-year plan was put much higher by Herr Manfred Wörner, the opposition's defence *expert*.

Herr Wörner said there was a gap between the commitments of the *Bundeswehr* and the funds available for meeting them; the forces would not be in a position to fulfil their role in the alliance or to meet their task of defending the country.

Foreign Minister defends French role in Africa

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 8

There was a sort of end of term atmosphere about the luncheon the French diplomatic press gave *on* Friday for M Jean François-Poncet, the Foreign Minister.

He is approaching the end of his time at the Quai d'Orsay *and was taking stock of his* performance during his two years there, with the satisfaction, he said, of a mission accomplished.

The voice of France was heard in the world, thanks to the *international* standing of President Giscard d'Estaing; and its vocation to defend peace, uphold human rights, promote the construction of Europe, *and* demonstrate French solidarity with Africa had been fulfilled, within the framework of the independence of French foreign policy. That *last point was one on* which he laid particular emphasis.

Britain was not mentioned during the question and answer session and it showed how much things have changed since "*the* English affair", as it is called here, poisoned relations between the two countries, and threatened the European Community with disruption.

But the Foreign Minister poured a good deal of cold water on Mrs Thatcher's initiative in favour of a multinational peace-keeping *force* in the Gulf: "The issue was not raised in the course of my *talks* in Washington", he emphasized. "And there is no question of extending the field of responsibility of Nato to the Gulf, or of setting up *another Nato* there.

"The Gulf States have said plainly that the defence of the area was a matter for the State senate." *Free circulation* in the Strait of Hormuz was essential to world peace. France had sent naval units to the area, and that was that.

He insisted *on the importance* of the European initiative for peace settlement in the Middle East. This was not directed against the Camp David agreement, but "*parallel to it*".

France insisted on Israel's right to recognition and security; and to the rights of the Palestinians to self-determination. "*The two objectives* are not contradictory but complementary", he said.

He drew a nice diplomatic distinction between the absence of *bilateral differences between* France and Libya, and the existence of differences between them over Chad. The standpoint of France was that expressed by the *Lagos conference on* Libyan intervention.

French policy in Africa was not based on military intervention but on development, he said *hotly in reply* to a question on whether France had not intervened in Chad because it


M François-Poncet: Sense of a mission fulfilled.

did not have adequate forces to do so.

"*France* means to respect Africa, not to abandon it", he said. "France did more than respect the sovereignty of the African states, it also defended it when it was threatened." In Chad, France had been asked to withdraw, and had done so.

He denied strenuously that President Giscard d'Estaing had ever said *Poland was part of* the Soviet block. He had referred to the country's geographical position. French policy had been clearly summed up by the President's phrase in a recent television interview that "Poland must be allowed to live".

It was greatly to be wished that there should be neither direct intervention in Poland, nor any pressure on it from outside.

No, *there were no plans* for Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the independent trade union movement, Solidarity, to be received by the President or the Quai d'Orsay.

He said relations between the French Government and the Reagan Administration had begun well.

France was happy to see a strong and stable United States. And the United States showed that it was ready to take into consideration the views and interests of the Europeans. The independent policy of France *was understood* and appreciated

Asked by a Japanese correspondent what the special ministerial committee on Japanese exports was up to, *M François-*Poncet replied that "France has great consideration for Japan, for its role in the world, and its economic success".

But, he added, the concentration of Japanese exports in *some sectors could prove a* threat to the European economy. France has no intention of allowing this to develop unchecked.

Football

Tired Ipswich deserve acclaim for salvaging replay

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent
Nottingham Forest 3 Ipswich T 3

Whether Nottingham Forest did marvellously well to recover from two absurd goals or Ipswich Town deserved acclaim for salvaging a replay after hopes of the "double" teetered on weary legs were not points that mattered. The consequences of the combined effort was a superlative sixth round Cup tie that caught the City ground in a spell of captivating excitement.

Ipswich had returned from their triumphant Uefa Cup tie against St Etienne believing that they were the cats whiskers, and justifiably. Within 25 minutes they were two goals up and even Bobby Robson, who lives nine lives in every 90 minutes, permitted himself the thought that "we have all the aces". The goals had been given to them. "It was a horror comic" Brian Clough said later when reflecting on Anderson's chapter of errors. Poor Anderson dislocated his shoulder in an attempt to make amends and, asked whether he would miss the replay tomorrow, Mr Clough grinned devilishly and retorted "All being well".

Forest's accident came after they had begun promisingly with Francis like lightning, Robertson showing the ball to opponents and taking it away as if auditioning for the Magic Circle, and the youngsters in midfield tilting at their Dutch counterparts. Stuart Gray, youthfully over-enthusiastic at first, smacked into the legs of Gates from behind and had his name taken. Gates suffered for the rest of the game, but there was no spare time for vindictiveness.

Anderson's first conspicuously odd mistake was to pass back to Shilton as Mariner approached in the unlikely event of just such a bungle. Goalkeeper and centre-forward met and the ball continued straight over the line. As if to prove his admiration of Ipswich, Anderson then deflected Muhren's centre cleanly, irrevocably over Shilton's head for an own goal of definitive simplicity.

Forest might have capitulated there and then but, propelled by Stuart Gray, Mills and Walsh, they rebounded so quickly that Osman, who usually shadowed Francis, was unable to clear. Francis volleyed in his shot, yet Ipswich's composure after that crucial blow was a credit to their confidence. The game's most bewitching team football came from them in the minutes before Francis again positioned for the highest individual praise. Muhren might have scored at the end of one sweeping, field-length movement and soon regretted his mistake.

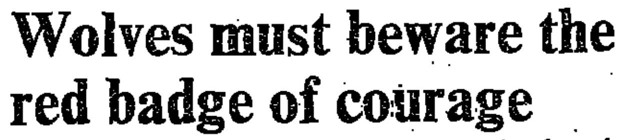
Francis always raised the crowd's expectation of the unusual, indeed they presumed he would succeed as Butcher went across to intercept him almost on the touchline. "I couldn't believe it" Butcher said later "I had him, but he wasn't there". Francis ran towards a battery of photographers at the near post, sold them a dummy, pulled the ball back across the goal and Walsh knocked the ball in.

Although Mills had to be withdrawn into the right back position vacated by Anderson, Forest's midfield still governed much of a second half that was absorbing without being as compelling as the first. Only five minutes had gone when Ponte, an effective substitute on the right side, rammed a low centre that Wark blocked with his arm. Robertson did not have to send Cooper the wrong way with the penalty, the goalkeeper had already chosen the other side.

With nine minutes to go Forest were in a strong position. Mr Robson had shown his acceptance of the situation by taking off a defender, McCall, and asking O'Callaghan to make haste on the wing. He admitted that for the first time in three months Ipswich had allowed opponents to take a match from them and now even if they beat every outfield player on the pitch they still had to get past Shilton, presumably without Forest's help.

Suddenly the fear lifted. Wark gave Thijssen the ball in a marked position and the Dutchman attempted a shot without much hope of satisfaction. Burns and Mills gave it more attention than it deserved and a deflection totally confused Shilton, who had to add impetus to his dive but turned in the air to see the ball curl inside the post. Shilton could not remember so many "freakish" goals, all in his own net, but they made this tie one of the most extraordinary of recent years.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST: P. Shilton; V. Anderson (sub. B. Ponte), F. Gray, [illegible], K. Burns, G. Mills, I. Wallace, T. Francis, C. Walsh, J. Robertson.
IPSWICH TOWN: P. Cooper; M. Mills, S. McCall (sub. K. O'Callaghan), F. Thijssen, R. Osman, T. Butcher, J. Wark, A. Muhren, P. Mariner, E. Gates, A. Brazil.
Referee: C. Thomas (Porthcawl).



Wolves must beware the red badge of courage

By Stuart Jones
Middlesbrough 1 Wolverhampton 1

With his shoes deep in the Ayresome Park mud, the conductor of the Newcastle Brown Band was in trouble. In front of a full house a puff of wind caught his music sheet and blew it along the touchline. After a pause for bated breath he went on waving his baton with the brio of a Barbirolli. He will remember how he coped with a potentially embarrassing moment on his big day. Middlesbrough may care to forget how they failed to cope with theirs. A psychological breeze blew away whatever they were using for an orchestral score and extemporization was not their forte.

Eight times they have reached the FA Cup quarter-finals and have yet to go farther. One man, Harold Shepherdson, has witnessed each attempt. In 1936, a newcomer to the playing staff, he watched from the bench as Burnley won on an almost unplayable frosty pitch. Forty-five years later, and now assistant manager, he saw Wolverhampton Wanderers gain a replay in conditions that were just as farcical.

The rain began to fall after half an hour, the turf became a skid-pan and the tie slid out of control. It was as well that the entertainment had been squeezed into the opening 30 minutes. Not all of it was intended but it is the thought that counts. Unfortunately for Middlesbrough, the thought in their minds was fear.

Ashcroft, in particular, seemed incapable of doing anything right. Even heading, his usual strength, became next to impossible. The man he was marking was Gray and, if ever there was an afternoon when Ashcroft needed to be dominant in the air, this was it. He was 'punished' only once, though, after eight minutes. Palmer's shot was deflected to Eves and his chip gave Gray the chance to put Wolves ahead.

For once a side could not be blamed for pumping high crosses into the area, yet it was two moves that skimmed over the water that threatened to seal it for Wolves. Platt had to make outstanding and outstretched saves from Eves and Richards to keep his side in the Cup.

Armstrong missed all this. He was in the dressing-room at the time, having 18 stitches put in his left leg. Middlesbrough do not seem complete without Armstrong, so it was fitting that they should equalize on his return and that he should help Cochrane, skipping through the mud and the Wolves defence, to do so.

To play or not to play tomorrow night is a question that will be left largely to Armstrong himself. Nattrass may have the decision taken out of his hands but Hodgson and Ashcroft will be there at Molineux. What is doubtful is whether Middlesbrough can perform so disappointingly again.

Wolves, so successful in Cup competitions, must be favoured to reach the last four but they are experienced enough to know that it will not be easy. The red badge of courage that Armstrong wore is an example of the opposition's determination.

MIDDLESBROUGH: J. Platt; I. Nattrass, I. Bailey, C. Johnson, W. Ashcroft, A. McAndrew, T. Cochrane, M. Proctor, D. Hodgson, B. Jankovic (sub. D. Shearer), D. Armstrong.
WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Bradshaw; G. Palmer, D. Parkin, W. Clarke (sub. N. Bell), J. McAlle, G. Berry, K. Hibbitt, W. Carr, A. Gray, J. Richards, M. Eves.
Referee: R. Challis (Tonbridge).

QPR wait on artificial pitch

By Norman Fox

Queen's Park Rangers may know by the end of the month whether the Football League will allow them to become the first to instal an artificial pitch. The League's Management Committee met yesterday to hear the Rangers' chairman, Jim Gregory, request that permission be given but no firm decision was taken.

Graham Kelly, the League's secretary, said the matter would be considered in the next few weeks. The Management Committee would probably have to recommend a new rule permitting artificial pitches which would then go to the annual meeting for verification. Rangers claim that 15 or 20 other clubs are interested, but recently the League chairmen said there was insufficient evidence of support.

The attempt by Rangers to hurry the League into a decision came as a result of frustration over the Loftus Road pitch under which there are springs that have always caused problems. This particular pitch is notoriously difficult to maintain, but by and large grass pitches now remain in better condition than in the past.

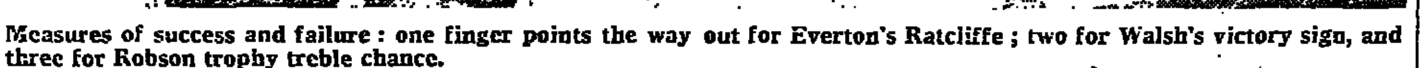
Development of different seeds and better drainage have brought improvements. Suggestions that the widespread use of artificial turf in the United States has proved a great success are not convincing. Most in the North American Soccer League are still grass and British players who have appeared on their artificial surfaces have mixed feelings.

Although there are obvious advantages for the clubs who could use hard wearing synthetic surfaces as often as they wished and rent them out for other events, the benefits for the game itself and the health of the players is questionable. Although some talented ball players like the true surface, others claim that it restricts natural movement and causes strains and burns.

Leading goalscorers

FIRST DIVISION: S. Archibald (Tottenham) 22; J. Wark (Ipswich) 20; M. Robinson (Brighton) 18; G. Crooks (Tottenham) 17; J. Fashanu (Norwich) 17; P. Mariner (Ipswich) 17; S. Moran (Southampton) 17; G. Shaw (Aston Villa) 17; K. Dalglish (Liverpool) 16; P. Eastoe (Everton) 16.





Measures of success and failure: one finger points the way out for Everton's Ratcliffe; two for Walsh's victory sign, and three for Robson trophy treble chance.

Pugnacious quality of Villa will keep leaders extended

By Norman Fox

Having feasted so well on the excitement of Ipswich Town's FA Cup draw at Nottingham, it would have appeared impudent to mention in the same breath that within that absorbing performance there were some hints that their designs on the "double" were endangered by doubts about endurance. If there is frailty Aston Villa will find it out.

Villa unobtrusively scored their seventh successive league win while Ipswich were tackling their second strenuous game in four days. What is more, Ipswich now have to replay against Forest tomorrow and put off their crucial scheduled first division match against Villa which was to have been held on Wednesday. Bobby Robson, the Ipswich manager, saw the danger of fatigue when asking Brian Clough whether the replay could be on Wednesday, allowing his players more time to recover. Naturally, Mr Clough saw no reason to oblige. Ipswich have one doubt in the fitness of Gates, who has a bruised leg, and Forest will be without Anderson who has a dislocated shoulder.

Ipswich still have a considerable advantage over Villa on goal difference, and that could be decisive. They have scored 14 in their last four games whereas Villa's victories have been less conclusive, at least judging by the scorelines. Even so, Sunderland, beaten 2—1 at Roker Park on Saturday, were impressed with the way Villa continued to press forward after taking an early lead. This pugnacious quality in Villa's outlook is likely to keep Ipswich extended at a time of particularly exacting matches. Villa were heartened last night when it was found that McNaught had not broken his leg but strained ligaments.

Wolverhampton Wanderers will return to league business next Saturday realizing that the reawakening of Leicester City, which was probably induced by an embarrassing cup defeat by Exeter City, has pulled them into the relegation vortex. They have two games in hand, but Brighton and Hove Albion, despite a timorous performance against Norwich City last week, improved their hopes by beating Coventry City 4—1 and Leicester benefited from Arsenal's absence of luck to win 1—0, Stapleton missing several chances.

Whatever the effect on the morale of a disturbing 4—1 home defeat by Dinamo Tbilisi, West Ham United remain unquestionably the best second division team. Their lead increased to 10 points on Saturday when they beat Newcastle United 1—0 and Notts County lost at home to Luton Town, but Bob Paisley, the Liverpool manager who was doing his homework at Upton Park before next Saturday's League Cup final, saw nothing to concern him apart from Brooking's ability to play exquisite football in clinging mud. Devonshire, whom he regards with respect, was absent but is expected to have recovered from knee and ankle injuries in time for the final.

European leagues

DUTCH: Sparta Rotterdam 2, FC Utrecht 7; Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 4, Willem II Tilburg 2; Roda Kerkrade 2, Feyenoord 2; Wageningen 0, Twente Enschede 1, NAC Breda 4, MVV Maastricht 0; PSV Eindhoven 3, Ajax 1; Excelsior Rotterdam 2, NEC Nijmegen 0; Groningen 4, PEC Zwolle 2; The Hague 0, AZ 67 Alkmaar 4.

BELGIAN: Rwdm 2, FC Brugge 2; Beerschot 2, Beringen 2; Winterslag 1, Anderlecht 1; Lierse 2, Waterschei 0; Kortrijk 4, Lokeren 2; FC Liege 4, Antwerp 0; Beveren 2, Standard 0; Berchem 0, AA Gent 0; Cerkel Brugge 2, Waregem 1.

ITALIAN: Avellino 2, Perugia 1; Cagliari 1, Torino 1, Catanzaro 0, Brescia 0, Inter 1, Fiorentina 2, Juventus 3, Ascoli 0; Pistoiese 0, Bologna 2; Roma 1, Napoli 1; Udinese 2, Como 0.

SPANISH: Atletico De Madrid 1, Barcelona 0; Hercules 7, Salamanca 2; Betis 2, Zaragoza 0; Real Sociedad 3, Real Madrid 1; Las Palmas 0, Valladolid 2; Osasuna 2, Almeria 1; Valencia 0, Athletic De Bilbao 0; Gijon 3, Sevilla 0; Espanol 2, Murcia 1.

SWISS: Bellinzona 0, Lucerne 0; Chenois Geneva 2, Basle 2; Lausanne 4, Neuchatel Xamax 1; Nordstern Basle 1, Servette Geneva 1, St Gallen 2, Grasshoppers Zurich 2, Young Boys

Bailey's achievement

By David Powell
Charlton Athletic 1 Barnsley 1

With Charlton Athletic's financial resources earmarked for the development of young players and the construction of England's first all-seater football stadium, Mike Bailey, the club's manager, is nearing the completion of an unusual achievement: Charlton remain clear leaders of the third division even though Mr Bailey has not yet paid out any money in transfer fees to strengthen his staff.

Apart from Naylor, who arrived at the Valley on a free transfer, Charlton have relied on much the same players as the ones who were relegated from the Second Division last season. By way of contrast, Barnsley included two players on Saturday for whom they recently paid a total of £115,000 to intensify their promotion challenge. Barrowclough, back at the club where he started his professional career, looked menacing enough to suggest that Norman Hunter, Barnsley's manager, bought wisely and McHale, signed in midweek from Brighton, would have scored had it not been for the goalkeeping of Johns.

Certainly both teams appeared worthy of promotion but Hunter's tactical expertise and judgment may yet need to pass a stiff examination if Barnsley are to join Charlton in a higher grade next season. While Mr Bailey's team is unlikely to need major surgery for the closing programme, the former Leeds United player will need to consider accommodating both Lester and Campbell, who were under suspension of Saturday.

There is also the possibility that Glavin, Barnsley's leading scorer with 16 goals, may sign for Leicester City before Thursday's transfer deadline and he was sufficiently impressive at the Valley to demonstrate how hard he would be to replace.

Charlton were notably less reliable in midfield without Tydeman, their skipper, who was sent off a week earlier at Colchester, and the visiting team created chances enough to have won. McHale's long-range shooting was admirable but he found Johns in top form and the Charlton goalkeeper was also responsible for denying Glavin a goal. At the other end Robinson and Hales should have scored but it was as well they did not because Barnsley deserved at least a point.

Walsh was blamed by Mr Bailey for the 20th minute goal that gave Barnsley the lead, the England Youth team player having failed to take his place in the defensive wall, allowing Banks to drive in a goal from 25 yards. But Walsh restored his favour with the Charlton manager by outjumping Evans, usually reliable in the air, to head the equalizer six minutes later.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC: N. Johns; T. Naylor, P. Warman, P. Shaw, L. Berry, A. Hazell, C. Powell, P. Walsh, D. Hales, P. Walker, M. Robinson. Sub. K. Smith.
BARNSLEY: G. Pierce; J. Joyce, P. Chambers, R. Glavin, I. Banks, M. McCarthy, L. Evans, D. Parker, T. Aylott, R. McHale, S. Barrowclough. Sub G. Riley.
Referee: D. W. Lloyd (Worcester).

Encouragement for Rangers

By Vince Wright
QP Rangers 1 Blackburn 1

Queen's Park Rangers are mulling over plans to install an all-weather pitch at their stadium in the summer. On the evidence of Saturday's match against Blackburn Rovers the laying of an artificial surface cannot come a moment too soon. Heavy overnight rain on Friday, followed by a downpour a few hours before kick-off, turned the notorious Loftus Road pitch into a gluey, gooey mess which sorely tried the patience of both teams.

In these conditions it was a triumph to make an accurate 15-yard pass. Rangers, to their credit, achieved this more often than Blackburn, but that will be little consolation in the wake of another dropped home point. During the past month Rangers have played Notts County, Sheffield Wednesday and Blackburn—three of the many second division promotion contenders—on their own ground and have failed to beat any of them.

Rangers are in contention for a first division place themselves and remain in a promising position despite these recent setbacks. They must be encouraged by the fact that, apart from West Ham United, the sides above them look as solid as wobbling jelly. In pure footballing terms Rangers are superior to all their challengers: whether they have the durability necessary for promotion is another matter.

The pitch was more suited to Blackburn's uncomplicated style than to Rangers's intricate game, yet sheer persistence enabled Rangers to assume control and they were a trifle unlucky not to take both points. Alf Grey, the referee, must have been the most unpopular person in Shepherds Bush when he refused Rangers a penalty eight minutes from the end. Blackburn's goalkeeper, Arnold, appeared to send Flanagan crashing to the ground after the striker had pursued Langley's defence-splitting ball. The linesman nearest the incident reacted immediately, but Mr Grey remarkably saw no offence.

Both goals spelt quality with a capital Q. After an insipid first half the game sprang to life in the sixty-first minute when Francis made space for himself on the edge of the area and curled a beautiful right foot shot into the top corner. Blackburn were so short of ideas in attack that an equalizer looked improbable, but with 11 minutes left Speight surprised us all with a half volley from 18 yards which had Burridge groping.

The chief honours fell to the midfield men. Francis and Currie showed the skill and vision which made them England players and for Blackburn, Kendall, the player-manager, and Brotherston proved that graft can be as important as craft. The result sets Blackburn up nicely for next Saturday's home match against the third-placed club, Sheffield Wednesday.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS: J. Burridge; D. Shanks, I. Gillard, T. Fenwick, S. Wicks, G. Roeder, M. Flanagan, G. Francis, S. Stainrod, A. Currie (sub. T. Langley), B. Silkman.
BLACKBURN ROVERS: J. Arnold; J. Branagan, M. Rathbone, H. Kendall, G. Keeley, D. Fazackerley, N. Brotherston, V. Busby, J. Lowey, M. Burke, M. Speight.
Referee: A. Grey (Great Yarmouth).

Powerful was a tie on which Power left mar

By Tom German
Everton 2 Manchester City 2

No one expected the niceties to overshadow unflinching commitment, nor did they. It was hard and raw, often scrappy, as tense as that moment in court before sentence is pronounced, as unpredictable as a feminine response, yet an FA Cup quarter final round tie from the mould of the old days, full of breathless action and suspense.

A late goal, when hope was subsiding, refocused Manchester City's sights on a place in the semi-finals in what, for them, has been a remarkable season. They deserved another chance. Like Everton, they have come to inject a lot of effort into their game and in the first half tempered it with some searching moves against the Merseysiders' right flank, usually propelled by Power which were as well fashioned as anything in the match.

Mackenzie strode away to strike Everton's bar from one of them and no doubt City felt they had done enough to be in front when Everton scored three minutes from half time. Young Caton, City's strapping central defender, and Varadi, slightly built but quick and elusive as leader of Everton's attack, were to be the central figures in both Everton's goals.

This time, Varadi lured Caton out towards the right corner flag, drew on his own nimbleness to give himself a yard in which to put over a centre which O'Keefe headed on to Eastoe, unmarked and unstoppable. Manchester's riposte was immediate, lending a dramatic final flourish to a half littered with stray passes and free kicks. Again the intrusion came along the left from where McDonald crossed the ball, R headed it down and G a his shot well to guide it McDonagh.

The pot still boiled and bu as the match resumed but an goal gave Everton the chan settle. Varadi was in the p of nipping round Caton whe big defender seemed to h off. It was a penalty, thoug was as much a cause for a as elation, for Everton managed to miss two at C Palace only a week ago. Ros one of the errant marksma that occasion but this time h Corrigan reaching in the direction. Everton's subse responses suggested they about to collect another first sion scalp to add to thos Arsenal, Liverpool and South ton they have already claime the Cup this season.

They most probably would done had Varadi's shot ma his swift anticipation when pounced on a rash back pas McDonald. Still, their lead intact until five minutes from end when MacKenzie and R carved a way through the hea Everton's defence and f Power with a ball which he ho delicately over McDonagh's There was still time for Ra to be sent to the dressing roo a foul on Hutchison. Battle resumed at Maine Road on nesday, assuming both sides breath enough left.

EVERTON: J. McDonagh; J. [illegible], K. Ratcliffe, W. Wright, M. Lyons, Ross, S. McMahon, P. Eastoe, Varadi, A. Hartford, E. O'Keefe, G. Stanley.
MANCHESTER CITY: J. Corrigan; Ranson, R. McDonald, N. Reid, Power, T. Caton, D. Tueart, S. MacKenzie, T. Hutchison, K. Re [illegible]
Referee: P. N. Willis (Durham).

The hallelujah chorus has lost even its cup glory

By Clive White
Tottenham H 2 Exeter C 0

Nothing kills a conversation more than when two sides are in complete agreement. When the worst two members of a second-rate defence score the goals that beat a plucky but uninspired third division side—and both managers know it—there is not a lot one can talk about other than the weather.

Even that was a dull topic at White Hart Lane on Saturday—damp and grey, like the football. The crowd of 40,000 had properly expected more of an FA Cup quarter-final with good basic ingredients. But though the outsiders, as Brian Godfrey, their manager, said, did not let the game pass them by, they failed to reach the attacking heights achieved against Leicester City and Newcastle United.

Spurs, whose defence repeatedly gave the ball away as though it carried an infection, won the game, if "won" is the word, by harassing the Exeter defence into errors and overcrowding them in midfield, where the Devon team are used to a quieter life with more time to build.

It was just as well for Spurs because their defence is always liable to surrender under the slightest provocation. For me it is one of the year's great mysteries that they have conceded only six goals in 12 games, though the opposition has been meek. Young Mazzon, the tenth player to have been tried in defence this season, did, however, make an important tackle to deny Exeter the lead in the first half when Delve was presented with the ball when Daines was 12 yards off his goal-line. Delve, like the team in general, was a fraction too slow.

Warren Mitchell, the actor, making a raffle draw at half-time, congratulated the Exeter sup ters on their vocal power their choice of ends—"bec that's where the action is g to be." Sure enough, 16 min later, a Hoddle cross was all to float on to the far post, w Graham Roberts—there were Roberts on view—had only to head to ball to score his first for Tottenham. Otherwise it not a game to dwell on for Roberts.

Bond, the Exeter goalkee was possibly still in the pro of reclaiming his manhood a low blow when a Hoddle kick rebounded off his chest Miller to tap in the second. it not been for these blank most of us would have given for Spurs's chances at St J Park in a replay. Exeter w have found encouragement in way that Archibald, the first sion's leading goal-scorer man to miss from six yards and when the diligent Crooks, i his own half, put him thr only for the Scot to run li frightened rabbit straight Bond's arms.

As it was, the staunch E supporters were rationed to odd "Oooh" when a 30- strike sailed clearly wide an the occasional rebuff for Spurs faction, whom they formed "You only sing w you're winning." Spurs had n ing to sing about, and after a cheap run through to the se final stage, must surely now found out, lest the chorus "Glory, Glory Hallelujah" sults further a venerable lege

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: B. Da [illegible]; C. Hughton, P. Miller, G. Roberts, Mazzon, S. Perryman, O. Ardiles, Archibald, A. Galvin, G. Hoddle, Crooks.
EXETER CITY: L. Bond; [illegible], J. Sparrow, [illegible], L. Roberts, Roberts, L. Pearson (sub P. Pratt), Rogers, A. Kellow, J. Delve, [illegible]
Referee: N. Midgley (Salford).

Celtic make hard work of eliminating part-timers

By Iain Mackenzie
Celtic 2 East Stirling 0

A rainbow arced down the middle of Celtic Park, "Paradise" as the green half of Glasgow calls it, during the first half of this Scottish Cup fifth round tie. East Stirlingshire, in the last eight for only the third time in their history, hoped that in their centenary season there might be something for them at the end of the arc.

For the part-timers from Falkirk, fighting to avoid relegation to the lowest league, there was only honour in defeat against a Celtic side which, yesterday excepted, is gradually returning to something like the form of the great days of late 60s and early 70s. They were only 1—0 behind at the interval but the difference in class was almost embarrassing.

Otherwise the crowd of just under 20,000 watched in growing frustration as Celtic, capable of scoring half a dozen against such inexperienced, almost immature opposition, had unlimited possession, space enough for four teams and only one goal after 70 minutes. That arrived after 25 minutes and was worth the wait. Provan did the early grafting, McGrain took over and Provan came in again to slip the ball to Conroy who beat Kelly from close in.

It was rather like watching Scotland play Zaire or Iran. Celtic moved at threequarter pace and the approach work was laboriously overdone and at times almost listless. A packed defence, sometimes comprising 11 men, survived 12 corners and as many near misses before the second goal arrived 18 minutes from time.

McLeod, who had come on Burns a few minutes earlier, nected with the ball from yards out and Kelly was hel to deal with the shot. Even the goal stood only after the eree had consulted and overr a linesman, whose flag was ra

So the cup holders have jo Rangers, the League Cup hol Dundee United and either Mo or Clydebank in the semi-round, the draw for which wi made this afternoon. Anc performance like this, how and Celtic will be strugglin ensure the penultimate roun not their last.

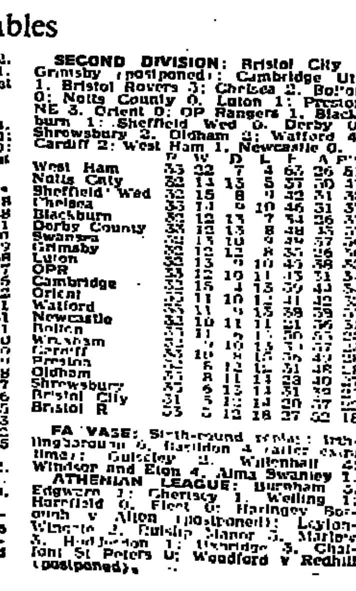
CELTIC: P. Bonner; D. McG, M. Reid, D. Sullivan, T. McAdam, Aitken, D. Provan, M. Conroy, McGarvey, T. Burns (sub. McLeod), C. Nicholas.
EAST STIRLINGSHIRE: G. [illegible], T. Blair, [illegible], D. Wat[illegible], Brennie, P. Lamont, A. Grant, Gourlay, K. Ashwood, B. McC[illegible], J. Robertson.
Referee: J. Foote (Glasgow).

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham v AP Leamington.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedford v Stourbridge, Kidderminster v Bedworth. Southern division: Chelmsford v Dunstable, Poole v Margate.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE Cup, third round, second replay: W Albion v Runcorn. League: Gates v Gainsborough.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Quarter-round replay: Harrow Borough v Hitchin Town.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Croydon v Leytonstone and Ilford. First division: Tilbury v Aveley.
OTHER MATCH: Brentford v Copenhagen.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Loughborough v Sheffield (at Notts County).
RUGBY UNION: Club matches (7.0): Abertillery v Aberavon, Keys v South Wales Police, Glamorgan Wanderers v Maesteg, Pontypool v Neath.
HOCKEY: Inter-Services championship (at Aldershot).

Weekend results and tables

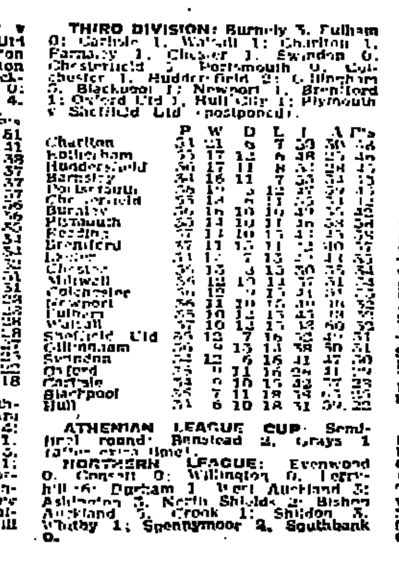


FA CUP: Sixth round: Everton 2, Manchester City 2; Middlesbrough 1, Wolverhampton 1; Nottingham Forest 3, Ipswich 3; Tottenham 2, Exeter 0.

FIRST DIVISION: Brighton 4, Coventry 1; Leicester 1, Arsenal 0; Southampton 1, Manchester Utd 0; Sunderland 1, Aston Villa 2; West Bromwich 1, Crystal Palace 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ipswich	31	19	10	2	62	25	48
Aston Villa	32	21	6	5	55	27	48
WBA	32	15	11	6	44	30	41
Liverpool	32	13	14	5	[illegible]	37	40
Notm Forest	32	15	9	8	49	33	39
Southampton	33	15	8	10	61	47	38
Arsenal	33	12	13	8	47	40	37
Tottenham	32	12	11	9	57	51	35
Man Utd	33	8	16	9	37	30	32
Everton	30	12	7	11	46	39	31
Middlesbro	32	13	5	14	45	44	31
Leeds Utd	32	12	7	13	27	41	31
Man City	31	11	8	12	42	43	30
Birmingham	32	10	10	12	42	48	30
Stoke	31	8	13	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	29
Coventry	33	10	8	15	39	56	28
Sunderland	33	10	7	16	41	42	27
Wolves	31	9	8	14	31	45	26
Brighton	33	10	5	18	42	57	25
Leicester	33	10	3	20	25	[illegible]	23
Norwich	32	8	6	18	35	61	22
Crystal Pal	33	5	5	23	39	68	15

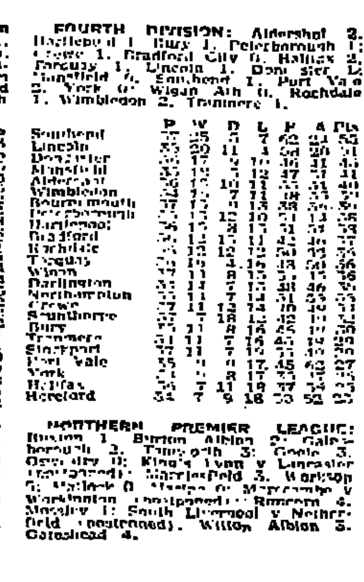
OTHER MATCH: Birmingham 2, Norwich 0 (at Boston United ground).
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Japan 0, South Korea 1.
WESTERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple 2, Paulton Rovers 1; Bridgwater 1, Tiverton 0; Clandown 2, Frome 0; Devizes 1, Liskeard 5; Portway 2, Clevedon 1.



SECOND DIVISION: Bristol City v Grimsby (postponed); Cambridge Utd 1, Bristol Rovers 3; Chelsea 2, Bolton 0; Notts County 0, Luton 1; Preston NE 3, Orient 0; QP Rangers 1, Blackburn 1; Sheffield Wed 0, Derby 0; Shrewsbury 2, Oldham 2; Watford 4, Cardiff 2; West Ham 1, Newcastle 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Ham	33	22	7	4	67	26	51
Notts Cnty	32	13	15	5	37	30	41
Sheffield Wed	32	15	8	9	42	31	38
Chelsea	33	14	9	10	46	31	37
Blackburn	32	12	13	7	34	26	37
Derby County	33	12	13	8	48	45	37
Swansea	32	13	10	9	49	37	36
Grimsby	32	12	12	8	37	26	36
Luton	33	13	9	10	45	38	35
QPR	33	12	10	11	43	31	34
Cambridge	33	15	4	[illegible]	39	44	34
Orient	33	11	10	12	41	42	32
Watford	33	11	9	13	38	39	31
Newcastle	32	10	11	11	21	36	31
Bolton	33	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	50	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wrexham	32	[illegible]	10	13	31	37	[illegible]
Cardiff	33	10	8	15	35	47	28
Preston	32	8	12	12	31	48	28
Oldham	32	8	11	13	31	40	27
Shrewsbury	33	6	13	14	31	39	25
Bristol City	31	5	13	13	20	37	23
Bristol R	33	3	12	18	27	52	18

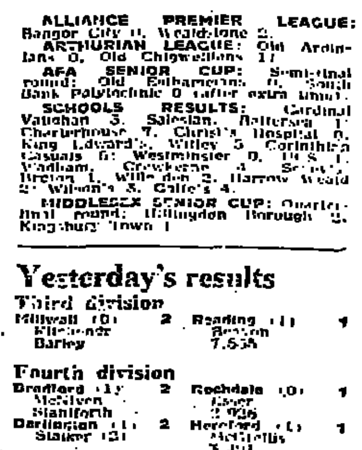
FA VASE: Sixth-round replay: Irthlingborough 0, Basildon 4 (after extra time); Guiseley 2, Willenhall 4; Windsor and Eton 4, Alma Swanley 1.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Burnham 5, Edgware 1; Chertsey 1, Welling 1; Harefield 0, Fleet 0; Haringey Borough v Alton (postponed); Leyton-Wingate 2, Ruislip Manor 3; Marlow 3, Hoddesdon 1; Uxbridge 3, Chalfont St Peters 0; Woodford v Redhill (postponed).



THIRD DIVISION: Burnley 3, Fulham 0; Carlisle 1, Walsall 1; Charlton 1, Barnsley 1; Chester 1, Swindon 0; Chesterfield 5, Portsmouth 0; Colchester 1, Huddersfield 2; Gillingham 2, Blackpool 1; Newport 1, Brentford 1; Oxford Utd 1, Hull City 1; Plymouth v Sheffield Utd (postponed).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Charlton	[illegible]	21	5	7	53	30	[illegible]
Rotherham	[illegible]	17	12	6	48	[illegible]	[illegible]
Huddersfield	[illegible]	17	11	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barnsley	[illegible]	16	11	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Portsmouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chesterfield	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burnley	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Plymouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Reading	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brentford	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Exeter	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	13	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chester	[illegible]	13	[illegible]	15	30	[illegible]	[illegible]
Millwall	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colchester	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Newport	[illegible]	11	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fulham	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Walsall	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sheffield Utd	[illegible]	12	7	16	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gillingham	[illegible]	[illegible]	13	[illegible]	38	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swindon	[illegible]	12	6	16	41	47	[illegible]
Oxford	[illegible]	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Carlisle	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Blackpool	[illegible]	7	11	18	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hull	[illegible]	6	10	18	31	[illegible]	[illegible]

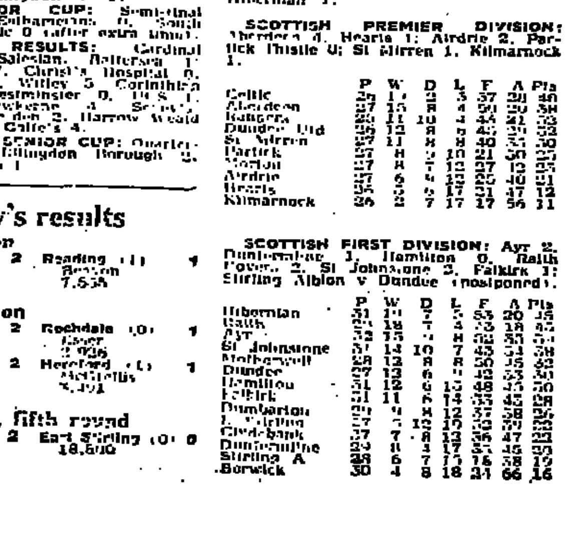
ATHENIAN LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final round: Banstead 2, Grays 1 (after extra time).
NORTHERN LEAGUE: Evenwood 0, Consett 0; Willington 0, Ferryhill 6; Durham 1, West Auckland 3; Ashington 3, North Shields 2; Bishop Auckland 5, Crook 1; Shildon 3, Whitby 1; Spennymoor 2, Southbank 0.



FOURTH DIVISION: Aldershot 2, Hartlepool 1; Bury 1, Peterborough 1; Crewe 1, Bradford City 0; Halifax 2, Torquay 1, Lincoln 1; Doncaster 1, Mansfield 0, Southend 1; Port Vale 2, York 0; Wigan Ath 0, Rochdale 1; Wimbledon 2, Tranmere 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southend	37	25	5	7	62	21	55
Lincoln	35	20	11	4	56	20	51
Doncaster	[illegible]	17	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	41	[illegible]
Mansfield	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	47	[illegible]	[illegible]
Aldershot	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	40
Wimbledon	[illegible]	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bournemouth	37	[illegible]	[illegible]	13	38	[illegible]	[illegible]
Peterborough	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hartlepool	36	17	8	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bradford	[illegible]	11	15	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	37
Rochdale	[illegible]	12	12	12	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Torquay	[illegible]	[illegible]	4	16	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wigan	37	11	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Darlington	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	48	46	[illegible]
Northampton	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	51	[illegible]	[illegible]
Crewe	37	11	12	14	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Scunthorpe	[illegible]	[illegible]	18	[illegible]	42	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bury	[illegible]	11	8	16	45	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tranmere	31	11	[illegible]	16	45	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockport	37	11	[illegible]	19	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Port Vale	35	[illegible]	[illegible]	17	45	62	27
York	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	17	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Halifax	36	7	11	18	37	54	25
Hereford	34	7	9	18	33	52	23

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Buxton 1, Burton Albion 2; Gainsborough 2, Tamworth 3; Goole 3, Oswestry 0; King's Lynn v Lancaster (postponed); Macclesfield 3, Workington 5; Matlock 0, Marine 0; Morecambe v Workington (postponed); Runcorn 4, Mossley 1; South Liverpool v Netherfield (postponed); Witton Albion 5, Gateshead 4.



ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor City 0, Wealdstone 2.
ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Old Ardinians 0, Old Chigwellians 1.
AFA SENIOR CUP: Semi-final round: Old Finbarmeans 0, South Bank Polytechnic 0 (after extra time).
SCHOOLS RESULTS: Cardinal Vaughan 3, Salesian, Battersea 1; Charterhouse 7, Christ's Hospital 0; King Edward's, Witley 5, Corinthian Casuals 0; Westminster 0, [illegible] 1; Wadham, Crewkerne 4, [illegible]; Breton 1, Wimbledon 2; Harrow Weald 2; Wilson's 3, Colfe's 4.
MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP: Quarter-final round: Hillingdon Borough 2, Kingsbury Town 1.

Yesterday's results

Third division

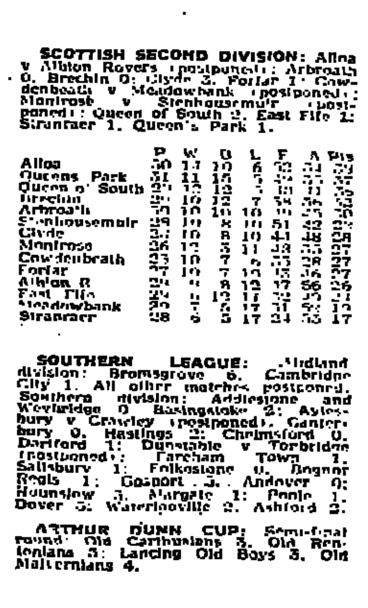
Millwall (0) 2		Reading (1) 1	
Kitchener		Beavon	
Bartley		7,658	

Fourth division

Bradford (1) 2		Rochdale (0) 1	
McNiven		Esser	
Staniforth		2,936	
Darlington (1) 2		Hereford (1) 1	
Stalker (2)		McGellis	
		3,491	

Scottish Cup, fifth round

Celtic (1) 2		East Stirling (0) 0	
Conroy		18,500	
McLeod			



SCOTTISH CUP: Fifth round: Dundee United 6, Motherwell 1; Morton v Clydebank (postponed); Rangers 3, Hibernian 1.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Aberdeen 4, Hearts 1; Airdrie 2, Partick Thistle 0; St Mirren 1, Kilmarnock 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	29	[illegible]	[illegible]	3	57	[illegible]	40
Aberdeen	27	15	8	4	50	20	38
Rangers	29	11	10	4	44	21	[illegible]
Dundee Utd	26	12	8	[illegible]	40	29	32
St Mirren	27	11	8	8	40	[illegible]	30
Partick	27	8	[illegible]	10	21	30	25
Morton	27	8	7	12	27	[illegible]	[illegible]
Airdrie	27	6	9	12	25	40	21
Hearts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	17	31	47	12
Kilmarnock	26	2	7	17	17	56	11

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Ayr 2, Dunfermline 1; Hamilton 0, Raith Rovers 2; St Johnstone 2, Falkirk 1; Stirling Albion v Dundee (postponed).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hibernian	31	[illegible]	7	5	53	20	[illegible]
Raith	[illegible]	18	7	4	[illegible]	18	[illegible]
Ayr	32	15	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
St Johnstone	31	14	10	7	45	33	38
Motherwell	28	12	8	8	50	35	32
Dundee	27	13	6	[illegible]	42	33	[illegible]
Hamilton	31	12	6	13	48	[illegible]	30
Falkirk	31	11	6	14	35	43	28
Dumbarton	[illegible]	9	8	12	37	38	26
E Stirling	27	[illegible]	12	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clydebank	27	7	8	12	[illegible]	47	[illegible]
Dunfermline	29	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stirling A	28	6	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	38	19
Berwick	30	4	8	18	24	66	16



SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Alloa v Albion Rovers (postponed); Arbroath 0, Brechin 0; Clyde 3, Forfar 1; Cowdenbeath v Meadowbank (postponed); Montrose v Stenhousemuir (postponed); Queen of South 2, East Fife 1; Stranraer 1, Queen's Park 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alloa	30	[illegible]	10	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Queens Park	31	11	15	5	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Queen o' South	[illegible]	12	12	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brechin	[illegible]	10	12	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Arbroath	[illegible]	10	10	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stenhousemuir	29	10	8	11	51	42	[illegible]
Clyde	[illegible]	10	8	10	41	48	28
Montrose	26	12	3	11	43	[illegible]	27
Cowdenbeath	23	10	7	6	[illegible]	28	27
Forfar	[illegible]	10	7	10	45	46	27
Albion R	29	[illegible]	8	12	37	56	26
East Fife	29	[illegible]	12	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Meadowbank	30	7	6	17	31	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stranraer	28	6	5	17	24	[illegible]	17

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Bromsgrove 6, Cambridge City 1. All other matches postponed. Southern division: Addlestone and Weybridge 0, Basingstoke 2; Aylesbury v Crawley (postponed); Canterbury 0, Hastings 2; Chelmsford 0, Dartford 1; Dunstable v Tonbridge (postponed); Fareham Town 1, Salisbury 1; Folkestone 0, Bognor Regis 1; Gosport 3, Andover 0; Hounslow 3, Margate 1; Poole 1, Dover 3; Waterlooville 2, Ashford 2.

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: Semi-final round: Old Carthusians 3, Old Reptonians 3; Lancing Old Boys 3, Old Malvernians 4.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Barnet v Bangor City (postponed); Bath 3, AP Leamington 0; Frickley 2, Gravesend 4; Maidstone 1, Altrincham 2; Nuneaton 0, Scarborough 2; Stafford Rangers 2, Boston United 1; Weymouth 1, Telford 0; Yeovil 1, Kettering 2.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Boreham Wood v Dagenham (postponed); Croydon 2, Woking 0; Enfield 2, Wycombe Wanderers 1; Harlow 0, Tooting and Mitcham 1; Hendon 1, Slough 1; Leytonstone; Dulwich Hamlet 3, Walthamstow Avenue 3; Bromley 2. First division: Aveley 1, Wokingham 2; Farnborough 2, Finchley 1; Hampton v Billericay (postponed); Hertford 1, Clapton 1; Metropolitan Police 1, Tilbury 2; Oxford City, Kingstonian 2; St Albans 3, Lewes; Walton and Hersham 5, Uxbridge; Ware 1, Epsom 2; Wembley 3, Camberley 1. Second division: Chesham; Casuals 1, Harwich and Parkeston; Dorking 1, Letchworth 2; Corinthian; Egham Rovers 0, Epping 1; Hungerford; Horsham 1, Rainham 0; Molesey; Hemel Hempstead 3, Southall 0; Hornchurch 2, Tring v Eastbourne (postponed); Worthing 5, Willesden.

LONDON SENIOR CUP: Third round: Carshalton 0, Cheshunt 0; Hayes; Bishop's Stortford 2, Hitchin 1; Farnborough 1; Staines 5, Barking 1.

SURREY SENIOR CUP: Second round replay: Merstham 3, Sutton 9.

IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena 3, Bangor 6; Cliftonville 1, Coleraine 0; Glenavon 3, Crusaders 2; Linfield, Glentoran 1; Larne 1, Portadown; Distillery 0.

Snap
New End

Irving Wardle

Edward Muggeridge, alias Eadweard Muybridge, is known to the history of photography as the father of the moving picture. He it was in 1877 who set up 24 cameras with trip wires on a race track, thereby proving that the horse does take all four feet off the ground. What Nigel Gearing seeks to show in this Foco Novo production is that no one is so blind as the man behind the viewfinder.

Snap gives a highly selective account of Muybridge's professional and private life; beginning with his departure from Kingston-upon-Thames to California, frying pan in hand, to join the Gold Rush, and taking him swiftly through his days of street trading before installing him in a San Francisco studio, engaging a team of models: a can-can dancer; midwife, a bogus British sailor, and young Flora whom he marries.

They strip off and go through their turns, freezing into pools of light as Muybridge resumes his lecture to the house, ever more absorbed in his work, and wholly unaware of the ardent relationship between his neglected wife and the moustache-stroking Barry, until she gives birth to a child strikingly resembling his male model. Muybridge promptly seeks him out and kills him, winning a court acquittal

The play is not a career story with a bit of scandal on the side. Rather it is a Faustian fable, showing that the pursuit of reality is the surest way of losing it. Muybridge brings his betrayers together, and watches their naked revels, but all he sees is an objective record of the human body in motion. As he observes mournfully at the end, "perhaps the one who participates cannot photograph".

Not everything in the play supports its main argument, and some essentials have been squeezed out. We never learn, for instance, why Muybridge needed to conduct his motion studies with nudes; nor why he abandoned photography in his last years. The dialogue, too, flounders between sententious pronouncements and idle quips ("a womb with a viewfinder") without achieving a clear statement of the aesthetic which underlies the remarkable exhibition of his work elsewhere in the theatre. Finally, the joke piano accompaniment by one Steve A'Dor allows the production to hedge its bets; if you lose track of the argument, you can view its hero simply as an amusing eccentric.

On the whole Roland Rees's production is much too good for such devaluation. Set (by Adrian Vaux) between matt black walls like the inside of a box camera, it excels in divided action (childbirth screams coinciding with photographic prophecies), positive/negative light changes, agile scenic transformation within a tiny space, and reverse camera work, showing Flora arising from the dead. Oliver Ford Davies, eyes frantically blazing over a bushy beard, is inventively supported by Colette Hiller, Lucinda Curtis, and Jonathan Burn.

The Little Foxes
Playhouse, Nottingham

Ned Chaillet

Whatever else Richard Digby Day has done in his first season as director of the Nottingham Playhouse, he has certainly changed the face of his audience. In place of the broad mix of young couples, students and adventurous elders, the first night audience for *The Little Foxes* was noticeably senior and his choice of plays has seemingly encouraged serenity rather than excitement.

Not that Lillian Hellman's play is unworthy in itself. It is a fine, well-crafted drama with deep emotional values. As a picture of the complex social currents of the American South it has few rivals. With clearly motivated and complex characters it is Ibsen with magnolias as against the Strindberg of Tennessee Williams where the decline of the former slave-owning aristocracy produces explosions of the unconcious.

Mr Day has made it a star vehicle for Jill Bennett and she, looking very handsome and predatory, has the presence for the part of Regina, the scheming wife who plans to make herself privately wealthy with her husband's money, even if it means killing him. Unfortunately Mr Day's production does not hold together well enough to keep her in focus.

One crucially miscast part, that of the desperate and weak brother, Oscar, needs more of the quality of an ageing bully than Michael Tudor Barnes can represent, and without that nastiness the tension is sacrificed. In better moments there are reasonable contributions from Edward Harwicke, as Regina's husband, and particularly from Jane Wenham as the alcoholic wife of Oscar who uses her voice with swoops and patterns like the flight of a skylark, and such characters allow the play to bump up and down in interest, but such adequacy is not quite enough.

At the beginning too many different versions of the southern accent intrude and the incestuous family bickering sounds more as if the arguments were being phoned in from different states. At the conclusion, when much of the impact has been rescued by impassioned acting, there is no trace of the South. Death and excitement have restored the rule of RADA.

LPO/Rostropovich
Festival Hall

Paul Griffiths

In a season of almost total neglect of living composers by the big London orchestras, it was encouraging to find on Thursday a large audience gathered to welcome the British première of *Timbres, espace, mouvement* by Henri Dutilleux. Now in his mid-60s, Dutilleux is a kind of French equivalent to Tippett or Lutoslawski, a composer who has learned from his younger colleagues, but nevertheless remains wholly himself and true to a style reaching back to the period between the wars. In the manner of French independents his output is small, consisting of two symphonies, recently recorded, and fewer than a dozen other important works.

The new piece, composed in 1977, is typical of him. There is something Boulez-like in the subtlety of its scoring for full wind ensemble with cellos, basses and percussion, and also in its perpetual renewal of impalpable ideas, but it reminded me too, particularly in its harmony, of Berg and early Messiaen, Ravel and Martinu, while miraculously retaining a feel all its own, a curious mixture of lowering oppression and crystalline elegance. Dutilleux has revealed that the stimulus for this came from Van Gogh's late painting *The Starry Night*, although what he hears in Van Gogh is only himself.

Of the two short movements, the first, obsessively fixed on G sharp, is entirely successful, with its three waves of nebulous development, each more forceful than the last. I liked the worried, rootless discussion of a cor anglais theme in the middle, and at the end the breathtaking entrance of the cellos at the height of a gathering storm in the wind. But the second movement is a disappointment, pretentious and then surprisingly vulgar in its rush to end with a bang. The whole work was, however, strongly urged by the London Philharmonic under Rostropovich. Next time he must return with the concerto Dutilleux wrote for him.

ECO/Kraemer
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Hilary Finch

In 1932 a film company made a blunder that cost them 70,000 francs (the English Chamber Orchestra's imaginative programming often provides a good story). They asked Ravel to write some music for Chaliapin to sing in a film about Don Quixote, secretly and foolishly consulted four other composers as well, including Ibert, whose version they chose. They were promptly sued by Ravel.

Thomas Allen's persuasive performance on Friday made it clear that we still hear too little of Ravel's last work, the three songs of *Don Quichotte à Dulcinée*. Each one is based on a Spanish or Basque dance: the pulsating, horn-flecked "Chanson romanesque" was sung with delightfully urbane passion, the swirling final "Chanson à boire" was taut of diction, tone and rhythm but lies just a little too low for Mr Allen to project it with quite enough panache.

Between the two, like a fallow field, lies the "Chanson épique", a sombre prayer to Saint Michael and the Madonna, who, as in Schumann's *Dichterliebe*, reminds the young man of his other Lady; on Friday it was beautifully coloured and shaped vocally and orchestrally.

Ravel's *Pavane pour une Infante defunte* was a sensitive bridge between this and Mr Allen's contribution to the first, baroque half of the evening, three arias from Handel's chamber cantata *Apollo e Dafne*. The chase almost got out of hand in the central *scena* of Apollo's pursuit, and Mr Allen seemed uncertain about quite how to treat his *da capos* vocally in two flanking arias which were sung nevertheless with poised, sustained ease, as elegantly and confidently shaped as they were supported orchestrally.

When Neil Black and James Brown, oboes, took their well-deserved bow after the opening *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*, they pointed another particularly artful piece of programming. Not only in that work, but also in Handel's Op 3 No 4 Concerto Grosso and in Haydn's Symphony No 90, they, together with the bassoon and flute, made the very most of every opportunity to tighten, reinvigorate and freshen the orchestral texture. Their playing, as co-stars of the evening, was a constant delight.

New conductor with a new symphony

The Greek conductor Spiros Argiris, who works regularly at the Cologne Opera, makes his British debut at St John's, Smith Square, on March 28 with the first public performance in Britain of Elliott Carter's first symphony. The orchestra is the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra, with which Mr Argiris will also conduct Mahler's fifth symphony.

Ballet gala

Marguerite Porter, Mikhail Messerer, Wayne Sleep, Maina Gielgud, Robert North, Doreen Wells and Adam Darius will be among the artists appearing at a gala at Sadler's Wells on March 15 in aid of the scholarship fund for the Urdang Academy of Ballet and Performing Arts.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from Friday's later editions


The Sage (Yair Vardi) embraces the Chosen One (Sally Owen) in *The Rite of Spring*

'Rite' scaled down to a harsh and primitive picture

Ballet Rambert
Sadler's Wells

John Percival

When you are accustomed, as most of us are, to the great volume of orchestral sound in *The Rite of Spring*, it is highly disconcerting to experience Stravinsky's piano arrangement for four hands which was actually the first published version. Consequently, my reaction to Richard Alston's new ballet, first given on the opening night of Ballet Rambert's London season at Sadler's Wells on Friday, is somewhat mixed, and I give it in the knowledge that further performances may swing my opinion either way.

On the one hand, I see that Alston has concerned himself, more than any other choreographer whose *Rite* I have seen, with Stravinsky's subtitle "Pictures of Pagan Russia". The outcome proves unexpectedly like a contemporary description, by Jacques Rivière, of Nijinsky's original choreography as "a biological ballet . . . the harsh struggle of growth, the panic terror from the rising of the sap, the fearful regrouping of the cells."

The bright, clear tone of the music relates it more closely to *Les Noces*, Stravinsky's other ritual invocation of Russian life. It was sensible of Alston to take Bronislava Nijinska's choreography for *Noçes* (reputedly inspired by her brother's *Rite*) as a model for his own choreography, and for Anne Guyon's costumes similarly to derive more from Gontcharova's *Noçes* designs than from Roerich's for *Rite*.

There are many virtues in the choreography. I remember especially the way the four women comfort each other in the opening passage, some sharply incised turning jumps in one of the big ensembles, the shuffling procession of the adolescent girls and Sally Owen's stubbornly determined contortions in the last solo.

Yet I am left with many reservations. The dances seemed, at first experience, thin (in texture, not just in numbers) for this work. The costumes looked oddly modern and too chic, especially the women's knitted tabards. The rest of the cast disappeared from attention, although not from sight, once the sacrificial solo started.

A crucial weakness, at first sight, is the role of the Sage, played by Yair Vardi. He looks oddly like a stray from *Job*, and what was presumably intended as a solemn ritual with the adolescents turns out like a dirty old man sneaking a quick cuddle with each of them in turn. The idea of letting him shilly-shally until one of them in effect chooses herself as the sacrificial victim, however, is excellent.

Anyway, we must be thankful that Diaghilev asked for a huge orchestration for *Rite*, since that helped bring Marie Rambert into ballet, initially to help Nijinsky analyze the music. And we can admire Richard Alston's courage and intelligence in finding a way to bring that musical masterpiece into the repertory of the company she founded.

The other new work on the same programme, *Figures of Wind*, is a real oddity. Cliff Keuter's choreography sets the four couples moving with an agreeable energy to some attractive old music, excerpts from oboe concerti and concerti grossi by Albinoni, Torelli and Manfredini. That is all very pleasant, innocuous but not outstanding.

Before and between the dances, they perform unintelligibly portentous gestures in silence. Behind them is a backcloth, also conceived by Keuter, showing tall rocks like decayed teeth in a barren landscape. That changes for a while to a sort of black amoeba. Keuter's programme note tells us of "a spot where the dead pause before travelling on". It seems to me like a half-baked idea that completely fails to come off, the component parts remaining as unappetizingly separate from each other as a disastrous experiment in the kitchen.

The Seven Dials Mystery
London Weekend

Michael Church

Some programmes start out with so much going for them that it amounts to a positive handicap. *The Seven Dials Mystery* came to us on the wings of lavish long-range publicity, money from Mobil Oil, a colossal gap in the schedules, a fleet of vintage cars and a galaxy of stars amid whom Sir John Gielgud and Cheryl Campbell would play father and daughter. And all to reanimate an obscure confection by Agatha Christie: as flops went, this would surely be the big one.

But it was not. Apart from one minor quibble (Gielgud seemed more like Miss Campbell's genial old great-uncle than her father) my astonished verdict is nothing but praise. The millions around the world on whom television co-productions are regularly foisted will in this case get their vicariously-spent money's worth.

Tony Wharmby's direction represented an expert restoration job, and Pat Sandys's adaptation entirely eliminated that creeping frowstiness which time has laid on Agatha Christie's work. "Easy to write, not requiring too much plotting and planning", she apparently said of her modest pot-boiler; on television it worked like a perfectly oiled and adjusted mechanism, every moving part in place.

In contrast to *Why Didn't They Ask Evans?*, whose plot ended in a cop-out, this chase was a fair one. Like all good family fun it could be enjoyed at several levels. For amateur sleuths the leads were deceptively scattered from the start, and by half-time there were


Cheryl Campbell

enough clues to suggest the identity of the villain without making anything too obviously clear. It would have taken a black belt at Cluedo to predict the final twist.

Limping along at the bottom of the class I doggedly backed the saturnine Sir Oswald until my companion pointed out the suave Thesiger's suspicious behaviour, but who would have thought the deadly Dials could turn out to be such an endearingly altruistic bunch of freedom-loving Polish émigrés and investigative reporters?

As is well known, Agatha Christie dealt in unproblematic, two-dimensional characters which she moved round the board with chuckling pleasure. The cardboard templates were here given comfortably rounded shape. Cheryl Campbell led the excellent cast with exactly the right blend of camped-up jokiness: perpetually encased in cloche hats and flapper dresses, this actress has an amazing ability to turn each stereotyped part she plays into something fresh and new. The drawing rooms, streets and clubs in which the story unfolded were exquisitely in period while possessing at the same time a slightly unreal air. The direction had gripping pace. Mere entertainment? Yes, and why not? There is at present no dearth of Plays for Today purporting to school us in the so-called realities of life.

Having found Bob Fosse's award-winning film *All That Jazz* quite suffocatingly pretentious I was not surprised to learn from last night's *South Bank Show* (LWT) that it had sprung out of his quest for the meaning of life and death. But Fosse was also the creator of *Cabaret* and scores of other splendid entertainments: under Melvyn Bragg's competent questioning he and his career opened out in a fascinating way.

As the footage proved, Fosse had been a marvellous dancer. For such terpsichorean tricks as jumping splits he had turned to black performers for inspiration, and we saw a lovely clip of the Berry Brothers doing jumping splits all over the place. Fosse had a lot to say about choreographing with the camera, and about the differences between stage and screen. Interesting stuff, which I shall remember.

Book review

God's Fifth Column
A biography of the age: 1890-1940

By William Gerhardie

Edited with an introduction by Michael Holroyd and Robert Skidelsky
(Hodder & Stoughton, £11.95).

Soon it will be sixty years since that enchanting first novel, *Futility*, made everyone talk about William Gerhardie How perfectly it matched its moment. It came early in the nineteen twenties, the only hopeful decade of this century. Constance Garnett was still translating Chekhov's tales and plays. *Futility*'s Russian themes were actually and artistically topical. They spanned pre and post-revolution; took us from St Petersburg to Vladivostock, and the gay, sometimes comic atmosphere was not spoilt by a "happy ending".

This astonishing young man followed his success with a second novel, *The Polyglots*, with a fine study of Chekhov, with *The Bad End*, a short tale one still remembers. Then something went wrong. New volumes appeared. Collected editions were twice launched. The magic had gone. Arnold Bennett more than once declared William Gerhardie to be a genius. Bennett's practical, professional mind generally made him add a "but . . ."

Gerhardie (he added the final "e" sometime in his long life) died in 1977, almost unknown to the new generation. There were hopes of a last great novel being discovered among his papers, as there had been of a Sibelius eighth symphony. Instead there came to light the present work, finished in 1942.

What is it? The title is no help. Gerhardie gives various interpretations of the meaning of "God's fifth column". Hovering over his biography of the half-century from 1890 to 1940 are the Spirits of Anger, Irony, Frustration, Pity, and Scorn. At times one recalls the mood induced by Shaw's preface to *Heartbreak House*, at others Robert Sherwood's *Idiot's Delight*. Never for a moment is Gerhardie placid or dull.

Carlyle's *French Revolution* has been described as history seen by lightning flashes. *God's Fifth Column* is history enacted by a motley of its makers presented under brilliant and carefully arranged spotlights. First on stage is Margot Tennant. Seemingly an odd choice. But she was not only a British social leader but also the future wife of the future Prime Minister who was to lead us to war. Gerhardie's opening paragraph epitomizes his method:

As the century entered its last decade, Margot Tennant was twenty-six, with four more years of dashing spinsterhood ahead before becoming Mrs Asquith. William II, turned thirty-one, had been sitting on the German throne for two years, in exultation, in excitement. Hitler was approaching his first birthday. Tolstoy had put sixty-two years behind him, and was faced with twenty more to uncoil the angry dust in. The century was petering out in flippant gestures and mighty sighs.

The Empress Frederick, Alexander III, Chekhov, John Morley, F. E. Smith, D. H. Lawrence, Bismarck, Curzon, Balfour, are quickly added. Hitler's father is contrasted with Lawrence's mother. William Jennings Bryan, Tchaikovsky, Wilde, Zola, Seeley, Froude, Chamberlain, Kipling (and other romantic imperialists play their parts. Here are A. G. Gardiner's *Prophets, Priests and Kings* seen not reflectively but in action.

God's Fifth Column is history, however idiosyncratic. It is on the move all the time. It rises to heights of description: the deaths of Tolstoy, Chekhov, and Proust, three great artists who supply a theme of their own to the book; the slow descent to execution of the Tsar and his family, with the Empress mending the Emperor's trousers along the way; the inexorable approach of both world wars; Lenin's train journey back to Russia, and the kaleidoscope of the Revolution—all are memorable. The dashing of Curzon's ultimate ambition shows what he can do on a miniature scale.

The book's crowning irony is its Epilogue. The new world that Gerhardie declared forty years ago was being unanimously demanded is now farther away than ever. International and national lawlessness circle the globe. The world's evils show no signs of being susceptible to Beethoven or Mozart. Far from "the structurally admirable United States" serving as a model to the rest of the world, nationalism is rampant. Nobility is, however, not to be scorned because it is being rejected. Mr Gerhardie's last book has not the perfection of his first, but it is a continuously readable, stimulating, and impressive work.

William Haley

Blair Brown inspired by the Russell touch

Blair Brown's first starring role in Hollywood does not, on the face of it, seem too promising. She is the romantic interest in a film in which the leading man turns into an ape. Yet Ken Russell's *Altered States*, based on a science fiction novel by Paddy Chayevsky, has been a surprising hit in America. Miss Brown—who in her early career narrowly avoided becoming a go-go dancer in the British television programme *Ready, Steady, Go!*—has emerged from this latest exotic endeavour as a sought-after leading lady.

The pseudo-scientific plot concerns a researcher, played by William Hurt, who immerses himself in a tank of water for extended periods. He does so to probe altered states of consciousness and, after sitting in on a Mexican sacred mushroom ceremony, he succeeds in taking his body back in time to earlier forms of human development. The most spectacular scene occurs when, in a temporary regression to a caveman, he escapes from the tank, assaults a guard and does unspeakable things with mountain sheep in Boston Zoo.

If it all sounds cranky in summary, imagine how hard it must be to act it with any conviction. Through it all, Miss Brown is required to play the role of an understanding wife, herself an anthropologist. (There is a vogue in Hollywood for brainy women: in a film she has just finished she is an ornithologist.) In *Altered States* she is almost the only sane person in the screenplay. She has her husband's children, worries about his sanity, divorces him and in the end joins him in turning into a human embryo.

She does it all with aplomb, helped by her having some sympathy for hallucinatory experiences. "I was a real child of the Sixties, a real hippie", she explains. "I had taken a lot of drugs in drama school. This was the first time I'd seen all the drugs and religious imagery in a screenplay. There are poetic passages and images that I found very moving. The metaphysical aspect, about the nature of reality and matter, was something I had explored in my experiences with drugs."

The imagery was created by Ken Russell, the director. Miss Brown found working with him an energizing experience. "He's very professional and very difficult", she says. "He demands a lot from people all the time and he certainly gives it. You work scenes in many different ways. It's exciting to work with him. He's not capricious. What he does is considered, though you may disagree with him. He's a visionary, not terribly literal-minded, and I enjoyed that. . . . When he was difficult it was always about work. It's only bad when it's about their egos."

The most demanding part of the role physically was turning into an embryo at the end. It took three hours to put on the body costume and make-up and for four hours after that she could neither eat nor go to the lavatory. "That's why they had to get unknowns for the part", she says. "Well-known actors wouldn't have put up with it."

Though virtually unknown in Hollywood, the petite and articulate Miss Brown has ten years' experience as a stage actress, much of it in Canada, where she attended drama school in Montreal from 1967 to 1970. She has been chiefly in classical roles, although her most recent stage appearance, in Washington, was the Kate Nelligan part in David Hare's *Plenty*. Her flirtation with *Ready, Steady, Go!* came in 1967. She had been offered a dancing role in the show but then was accepted for the Montreal Drama School and went to Canada instead.

She had never consciously planned to be an actress; she had visions of being a surgeon or a scientist before she dropped out of college after two years. "Like Spencer Tracy thought acting wasn't a profession for a grown man, I thought it wasn't for a grown woman", she says.

Those unmoved by Russell's hallucinatory visions might feel that this film is not for a grown person to be seen in or at, but it has clearly struck a chord with American filmgoers, feeding their current taste for the surreal and the fantastic.

Now that she has finished playing her ornithologist (in a film to be called *Continental Divide*), Miss Blair is temporarily not working. She is going back to Malibou to do up the neo-Gothic (1950) mini-castle she shares with her boyfriend. It is not that she has lacked offers, but she has not found a part she can get to grips with. "There aren't any good parts for women in movies at the moment", she says. "Come to think of it, there aren't many good parts for men. I guess it's just not a good time for human beings."

She is looking for a serious character role. "All those Australian movies we have here at the moment and are doing such good box-office—they have strong character roles but you couldn't raise 25 cents to make a movie like that here. All the parts I've been reading are just women reacting to men and I don't want that." I suppose, once you have reacted to your husband turning into an apeman, everything else seems tame.

Michael Leapman

Motor racing

Lotus break through with twin chassis

By John Blunsden

Colin Chapman and his team of Lotus research engineers have once again enhanced their reputation as the supreme pioneers of new concepts in racing car design.

In 1962 they made all existing cars obsolete with the introduction of the monocoque chassis. In 1967 they led the way again by making the engine an integral part of the chassis. Three years ago they forged another major breakthrough in using aerodynamics to create the ground-effects car. Now they have unveiled the Grand Prix car with two separate chassis. Far fetched though it may sound, its attractions are such that others are almost certain to follow the Lotus lead. The design would seem to meet the latest formula one regulations.

After 21 months of secret development, the first of the new cars, designated the Essex Lotus T.88, was flown out from London yesterday morning to California, where two days of testing at the Willow Springs race track are planned for this week. If these are successful the T.88 will take its place alongside two conventional Lotus 81s in the paddock at Long Beach, where the United States Grand Prix West will open the 1981 world championship series next Sunday.

The first car has been allocated to the team leader Elio de Angelis, but a second T.88 is under construction and should be ready for Nigel Mansell to use in the Brazilian Grand Prix on March 29.

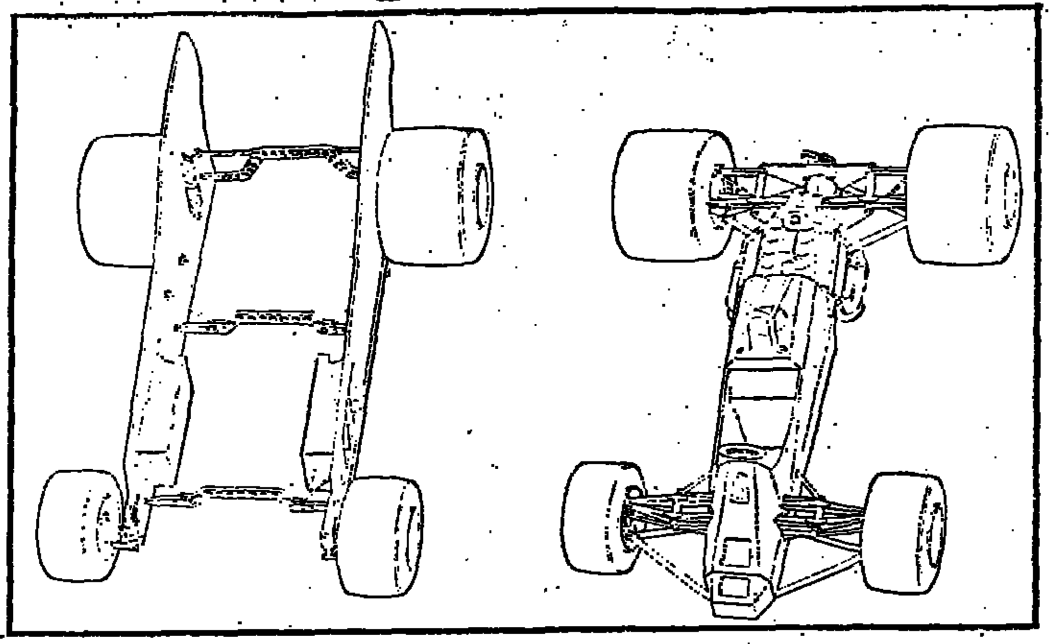
The dual-chassis concept is another typically ingenious Chapman solution to what he has described as the irreconcilable requirements of a car's suspension during the proper use of ground-effect aerodynamics. So successful have designers become in using air-flow to force cars down on to the track that the spring stiffness required to hold them there has made the car almost impossible to drive on the limits. Drivers have complained of intolerable vibration, severe bruising, double vision and even difficulty in keeping their feet on the pedals.

With the T.88, the very high aerodynamic loads have been isolated from those generated from the track. This has been achieved by rigidly attaching a one-piece outer body to a simple ladder-type chassis comprising a pair of vertical side plates made of carbon fibre and Kevlar composite material, braced by three steel cross members. Four stiff coil-spring-damper units mounted vertically alongside the wheels, provide the firm suspension required to withstand the high aerodynamic loads created by the body.

The driver's cockpit forms part of a separate inner chassis which also carries the engine, transmission and most other mechanical units, plus the fuel cell, and this is suspended much more softly through inboard mounted coil-spring-damper units. The effect is rather like that achieved by a commercial vehicle with a sprung cab, but in this case not only does it enhance driver comfort and controllability, it also insulates much of the car from the violent shocks and loads subjected to the stiffly suspended outer-chassis.

There is an inevitable weight penalty in having two chassis instead of one, although the liberal use of lightweight and sophisticated materials in forming honeycomb-filled composite structures has done much to minimize the weight increase over a conventional single chassis. Also all car constructors effectively have been given an extra 20kg to play with following the removal of the skirt and an increase in the minimum weight limit for cars of 10kg.

The Lotus team have been going through a thin period since their first ground-effects car, the Lotus 79, gave them such a decisive advantage over all their rivals in 1978. With the T.88 they now have the opportunity to make a big come back and to offer the Cosworth-Ford DFV engine, now approaching its fifteenth season of racing, a further lease of life.



Two into one does go: the ladder-type outer chassis of the Essex Lotus T88 (left) takes the aerodynamic strains while the inner chassis (right) insulates the driver, engine and transmission from vibrations and shocks.

Tennis

Mottram and a gamble restore British pride

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Take pride, this morning, in British tennis. Giving their finest performance since they beat Australia in 1978, Britain beat Italy 3—2 in the first round of the Davis Cup tie that ended at the Brighton Centre yesterday. On this last day Adriano Panatta beat Richard Lewis 6—4, 6—2, 6—4, to put Italy level, but Christopher Mottram, playing a "live" fifth rubber for the first time, defeated "The Little Soldier", Corrado Barazzutti, 6—3, 6—2, 6—2.

Under the new format this puts Britain in the last eight. Their next opponents, New Zealand, have the right to play at home, but have asked that the tie be played in Britain. Subject to agreement on financial terms the tie will probably be played at Eastbourne the week after Wimbledon.

Italy may have been too confident. They had beaten Britain eight times since the Italians were crushed at Eastbourne, just along the coast, in 1933. They had reached the final four times in five years. In terms of rankings, reputations, and experience they were obviously the stronger team. But all had reached an age at which their competitive assurance was subject to erosion—especially under the stress of having to win three sets in an alien environment.

Britain were depending on Mottram to win both his singles and—even more of a gamble—the ability of Lewis or the doubles team to close what seemed, on paper, to be an awful gap in class. After six hours and 58 minutes of tennis the first day ended as most of us expected it to. The sounder Mottram won 9—7, 3—6, 6—3, 6—4 against Panatta, who did not serve well enough and was forced to take too many chances. Barazzutti then beat Lewis 6—4, 1—6, 6—8, 9—7, 6—4.

With Mark Cox's preliminary help, Lewis had raised the level of his game. A stout heart and firm nerves enabled him to stay on this previously untrodden peak for so long that he even had a break point for a 5—4 lead in the fifth set. Even in defeat, he had done Britain's morale more good than Italy's. Lewis, in short, showed Britain a chink of daylight. Andrew Jarrett and Jonathan Smith pushed the door wide open by beating Paulo Bertolucci and Panatta 6—1, 3—6, 6—3, 3—6, 7—5 in Saturday's doubles.

Jarrett and Smith, former Millfield schoolmates, had never played Davis Cup tennis before and on this year's form Paul Hutchins, Britain's team manager, was taking a chance by choosing them—particularly as Smith, recently afflicted by injuries, was wearing a rubber corset and had both ankles strapped. Smith survived a break point in a first game illuminated by fierce Italian returns—but never had another break point against him. Serving flat out for the first time since he hurt his back in December, he played a superb match.

So did Panatta, who had only two break points against him and in many ways was the star of the show. The difference was that Smith had the better partner. Bertolucci was always vulnerable, especially when serving or hitting forehands.

The British pair played the match of their lives and passed a formidable test of nerve in the fifth set. Other than the match point, no shot was more important than a neat half-volley by Jarrett when he was serving 3-all and break point down.

Yesterday Lewis was assailed by much better serving than Mottram had to face on Friday and Lewis's returns were not geared to the task. In 14 service games Panatta conceded only 12 points and was in trouble only at 1—2 and 15—40 in the third set. Panatta was the sounder and more flexible and dominated the match. The most startling incident occurred when a spectator shouted an angry demand that the ban on smoking should be enforced.

It was much to Mottram's credit that what could have been a long and nerve-racking last match became increasingly predictable and lasted only an hour and 57 minutes. Barazzutti had three break points in a first game that lasted for 10 minutes. Mottram had to break service three times to win that tense set—which was a critical and probably decisive test of nerves that affected the confidence of both men. Thereafter, Mottram's tactical sense and ball control seldom faltered. He continually changed the pace and pattern of the rallies, yet did so without loss of accuracy. He played so well that he made this look an easy match to win.

Unknown Mexican forces US doubles surrender

Paul Ramirez teamed with Jorge Lozano, aged 17, to day to defeat Marty Riessen and Sherwood Stewart 6—4, 3—6, 9—7, 0—6, 6—3 and give Mexico a 2—1 advantage over the United States in the opening round Davis Cup competition in Carlsbad, California.

Ramirez, the Mexican No 1, was playing in his second five-set match after having levelled the competition at 1—1 yesterday by beating Tanner 3—6, 8—6, 6—1, 8—10, 6—3 in a thrilling contest. He encouraged his young team colleague to raise his game, and Lozano played like a veteran.

Mexico got off to a quick start in the doubles winning the important first set. "After winning the opening set," Ramirez said, "We felt we could win the match." They held a 2—1 sets lead before taking a 15-minute break.

The Americans levelled, however, taking the fourth set 6—0. But Ramirez and Lozano responded well. Ramirez held service, and they went to 3—0 as Stewart was broken and Lozano held. Ramirez, however, was broken in the fifth and the Americans trailed 3—2 on the change.

The significant break occurred when Riessen, who had been experiencing difficulty throughout the three-hour, seven-minute match, was broken giving Mexico a 5—3 lead.

McEnroe had earlier had an easy time with Lozano, a surprise selection by Mexico to play singles. "I never heard of Lozano before this week, and I got it over as quickly as possible", the American said. "But it's really harder to play a match like this, because you can't quite get the adrenalin flowing, not knowing anything about your opponent", McEnroe added.

Two service breaks enabled McEnroe to win the first set. The 22-year-old star seemed to get stronger in the second set, during which he yielded only three points off his powerful service.

Czechoslovakia's top player, Ivan Lendl, stormed out of his singles match in the tie against Switzerland in Zurich after a dispute with an umpire. The match was awarded to his opponent, the Swiss indoor champion, Roland Stadler, but the organisers said that they would complain to the International Tennis Federation and Davis Cup committee about Lendl's behaviour.

The Zurich organising panel also said that they would freeze about 15,000 francs (about £3,500) due to the Czechoslovaks from television rights and gate money.

RESULTS: Munich: West Germany beat Argentine 3—2. Bucharest: Romania beat Brazil, 3—2. Zurich: Czechoslovakia lead Switzerland, 3—1. Lyon: Australia beat France, 3—2. Jakarta: India beat Indonesia, 3—2. Seoul: New Zealand beat South Korea, 5—0. Yokohama: Sweden beat Japan, 5—0. Bogota: Chile lead Colombia, 2—1.—Agencies.

Golf

Double first for Wadham as a woman tees off

By Peter Ryde

Jane Tucker, a third-year undergraduate at Oxford University, has been included in the university's second team, the Divots, to play in their annual match against the Cambridge Stymies at Southport and Ainsdale two days before the university match, which begins at Formby on March 20.

This break with tradition followed an exchange of views between the Oxford Divots captain, Nigel Platt, and his opposite number at Cambridge, as a result of which it was decided to allow Miss Tucker to play off the women's tees. The reaction of Miss Tucker, who is studying economics, was one of gratitude to Cambridge for making the gesture. Whether she would have made the team without it the captain was not prepared to say, but he admitted that the granting of the request had put her selection beyond doubt.

Purists may growl and argue that conditions should be the same for all seeking a place in the team. I might growl with them if such a decision concerned the university match itself, but the context is quite different. The contest between the two second teams is a more light-hearted affair, played over 18 instead of 36 holes, and Cambridge were in a strong position to be generous after nearly inflicting a whitewash on Oxford last year, when they won the match by 14½-½.

The general opinion seems to be reflected in a remark made on Saturday by the Oxford University captain, Paul Vickers, to the effect that, while in no way disapproving of the selection in this case, if he were asked by Cambridge whether he minded their fielding a woman for the university match, he would be agreeable so long as she played off the same tees as the men.

Miss Tucker's college, Wadham, may be said to have scored a double first for it is also the college of Susan Brown, the recently chosen cox for the Oxford crew. As a sensation Miss Tucker's distinction may not be in the same class but it is not without significance.

It is a straw in the wind, a declaration that the road is open to women golfers at the two universities, neither of which, I understand, has as yet a women's golfing society. But another year the opposing team might not be so complaisant about forward tees.

The university captains, S. Melville, of Cambridge, and Vickers have chosen their teams and, in accordance with recent custom, have exchanged their draw order for the match next week. It is as follows (Oxford names first):

FOURSOMES. S. P. Thomas (Winchester GS and [illegible]) and M. Rogers [illegible] v H. S. Melville (Barrow GS and [illegible]) and S. P. Rosser [illegible]; P. A. V[illegible] (Birkenhead School and St Peter's) and R. J. Dicton (Blue Coat School, Liverpool and Christ Church) v J. G. [illegible] (Bolton School and [illegible]) and [illegible] Godwin (Bristol GS and Pembroke); A. J. G. Wright [illegible] and R. [illegible] Phillips (Charterhouse and Lincoln) v D. [illegible] Warden (Loughborough GS and Fitzwilliam) and P. Froggatt (Belfast Institute and Clare); K. [illegible] Morris (Aylesbury GS [illegible]) and [illegible] Taylor (St Edward's GS, Stourbridge and Brasenose) v R. J. H. Randall (Millfield [illegible] St John's) and G. [illegible] Collingham [illegible] HS and Emmanuel); T. Askew (Loughborough GS and University) and M. R. Butler (Dauntsey's School [illegible] and St Edmund Hall) v J. Bruce (Edinburgh Academy, St Andrew's University and Churchill) and J. D. Cruickshank (Winchester and St John's).

SINGLES: Vickers v Melville, Thomas v Leigh, Askew v Randall, Robson v Froggatt, Phillips v Warden, Wright v Godwin, Morris v Bruce, Bussy v Rosser, Taylor v Cruickshank, Butler v Collingham.

DINNER MATCH (March 19): F. Armstrong (Wakefields, Congregational and Magdalen) and F. D. [illegible] (Arnold School, Blackpool and St Edmund Hall) v T. [illegible] and [illegible] (Haberdashers, Aske, Elstree and Queens). Singles: Armstrong v [illegible], Livesey v [illegible].

Athletics

Victory goes to Goater but Moorcroft steals limelight

By Paul Harrison

Julian Goater was an overwhelming winner through mud, wind and rain of the senior title at the National cross-country championships, sponsored by Provincial Insurance, at Parliament Hill Fields, Hampstead, on Saturday. To Goater, a 28-year-old RAF officer stationed at Harrogate, went the glory of one of the biggest winning margins ever (nearly two minutes) but much of the limelight was diverted elsewhere: to David Moorcroft.

Moorcroft, also 28, the Commonwealth Games 1,500 metres champion, was left at the start when he mistook the three minute warning gun for the five minute one and lost about 100 yards before he caught the pack of more than 2,200 competitors. For the rest of the nine-mile course, he had to pick his way through the bunch, finishing an extraordinary fourth. It was a performance that earned him a place in the English party to defend the team title in the International championships in Madrid on March 28. There, where conditions are likely to be flat and fast, the track man may come into his own.

Yet it was Goater's power that prevailed on Saturday, the Shaftesbury Harrier commenting afterwards: "The easiest race I have run for ages. After the first half mile all I had to do was keep going." He won in 44 min 39 sec from David Clarke of Hercules Wimbledon (46 min 34 sec).

The English team for Madrid, announced after the National, is: Goater, Clarke, McLeod, Binns, Newton, Forster, Ford, Moorcroft and Rose. Nick Rose is included despite not taking part in Parliament Hill. He ran instead in the American championships.

There is room in the junior team for Jonathan Richards, the 16-year-old of great promise from Camborne, Cornwall, who won the youth's race by nearly a minute. Richards had no gripes about the conditions. "This is cross-country", he said. "If it was dry and sunny, it wouldn't be cross country."

He had a good start, which was fortunate for the beginning of the race was a shambles. There were repeated rolling starts and in the end the 1,444 youths went of their own momentum with the starter's gun never being fired. A lone steward, some 50 metres up the course, tried, Canute-like, to stem the flow but the runners simply submerged him and flooded on and by like a tide along a beach. Such false starts have become all too common.

SENIOR (9 miles): 1, J. Goater (Shaftesbury Harriers), 44min 39sec; 2, D. Clarke (Hercules and Wimbledon), 46:34; 3, M. McLeod (Elswick), 46:58; 4, D. Moorcroft (Coventry), 47:00; 5, S. Jones (Bristol), 47:04; 6, S. Binns (Bingley), 47:04. Team: 1, Tipton, 164 pts; 2, Gateshead, 293; 3, Coventry, 359.

JUNIOR (6 miles): 1, J. Doherty (Leeds City), 31:33; 2, G. Smith (Sunderland), 31:54; 3, C. Robinson (Royal Navy), 31:59. Team: 1, Rossendale, 145; 2, Leicester, 171; 3, Warrington, 305.

YOUTHS (4 miles): 1, J. Richards (Duchy of Cornwall), 22:40; 2, M. Dalloway (Stourport), 23:32; 3, M. Wheeler (E Grinstead), 23:37.

COSFORD: AAA national indoor relay championships, women: 4 x 100m: 1, Wolverhampton and Bilston, 48.9secs; 2, Birchfield Harriers, 50.1; 3, Winchester, 50.5. 4 x 400m: 1, Borough Road College, 3min 45.6secs; 2, Wolverhampton and Bilston, 3:48.7; 3, Coventry Godiva, 3:53.2. Pentathlon: 1, W. Laing (Liverpool), 3,865 pts; 2, C. Henley (Bournemouth), 3,659; 3, E. Wren (Bromley), 3,659. Men: 4 x 100m: 1, Wolverhampton and Bilston, 43.3secs; 2, Stoke AC, 44.0; 3, Borough Road College, 44.1. 4 x 400m: 1, Wolverhampton and Bilston, 3min 18.8secs; 2, Borough Road College, 3:20.3; 3, Sheffield, 3:22.5. Sextathlon: 1, G. Richards (Berlea), 4,266pts; 2, C. Boreham (Bournemouth), 4,256; 3, S. Karlin (Letterkenny AC), 3,976.

Not quite the worst

One of the worst football teams in Britain yesterday celebrated their first victory. Cotgrave Colts, who have let in 121 goals in 15 matches in the Notts Sunday League, won 7—1 against St Anne's Wanderers, who have conceded 203 goals. "I thought we were bad but Wanderers were really shocking," the Cotgrave manager said.

IAC challenge rejection of open athletics

By Norman Fox

Last week's decision by the Amateur Athletic Association to reject "open" athletics is being challenged by the International Athletics Club on the grounds that the resolution was invalid. The IAC believe that open athletics is in the best interests of the sport.

Counsel's opinion has been sought by the IAC, who doubt that the vote of 117—101 against represented the "true views of the membership of the AAA". As a result the club suggest that there are three main reasons why the decision should not be acted upon "on or on behalf of the AAA".

The primary reason, they point out, is that the clubs were asked (a) to implement the recommendations, and, if so, how; or (b) to amend the recommendations and then implement them, and, if so, how; or (c) to reject the recommendations, and, if so, why. Counsel considered that these "so called resolutions" were not in those terms capable of a yes or no vote.

Apart from disagreeing with the wording of the resolutions, the IAC believe that several members sought to move amendments to them but the chairman "improperly refused to submit any such amendments to the meeting". The IAC want the AAA to convene another extraordinary meeting "at which proper resolutions in relation to the recommendations of the report and/or the concept of 'open athletics' can be properly voted upon". The club will take the matter to the High Court if they do not have "an acceptable response" by tomorrow evening.

Mustafa's defence

Detroit, March 8.—The World Boxing Association light-heavyweight champion Eddie Mustafa Muhammad will defend his title against Murray Sutherland, probably in Atlantic City.

For the record

Fencing

LONDON: Martini épée international competition: Quarter-final round: S. Paul (GB) beat M. Strzalka (Poland) 10—8; J. Llewellyn (GB) beat K. Hjorpe (Sweden) 10—9; J.-B. Evequoz (Switzerland) beat P. Barvslad (Sweden) 10—8; N. Koppang (Norway) beat D. Giger (Switzerland) 10—8. Semi-final round: Paul beat Llewellyn 10—2, Koppang beat Evequoz 10—5. Final: Paul beat Koppang 10—2.

Hockey

MIDDLESEX CUP: Quarter-final round: Hounslow 5, Southgate Adelaide 4.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Scotland 1, England 2; Wales 1, Ireland 1.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: RAF 4, Purley 1.

OTHER RESULTS: Berkhamsted 0, Bishop's Stortford 3; Polytechnic 1, London University 1.

WOMEN'S MATCHES: Gravesend 5, Belvedere 2; London University 3, Polytechnic 5; NPL 1, Walton 0.

Golf

BANGKOK: Thailand Open: 281: T. Sieckman (US), 69, 70, 70, 72; 284: P. Stewart (US), 74, 70, 73, 67; G. Burrows (US), 71, 70, 71, 72; Y. Hagawa (Japan), 71, 71, 69, 73; 285: S. Ginn (Australia), 74, 72, 69, 70; Tsao Chien-Ten (Taiwan), 75, 68, 70, 72; 286: T. Ball (Australia), 73, 70, 73, 70; Hsu Sheng-San (Taiwan), 72, 72, 69, 73; D. Helper (US), 71, 68, 70, 77; 287: B. Arda (Philippines), 71, 73, 75, 68; K. Cox (US), 74, 68, 74, 71; H. Suzumura (Japan), 73, 70, 73, 71; Hsu Chi-San (Taiwan), 72, 73, 71, 71; P. Izumikawa (Japan), 74, 70, 71, 72.

TUCSON: Women's tournament: Leading scores: 210: N. Lopez-Melton 70, 72, 68; 214: M. Van Hoose, 74, 70, 70; 215: P. Bradley, 72, 71, 72; 217: P. Hayes, 73, 71, 73; 219: A. Ritzman, 73, 75, 71; A. Miller, 74, 73, 72; A. Alcott, 73, 73, 73; 220: B. Daniel, 74, 75, 71; J. Carner, 74, 73, 73; J. Alex, 75, 70, 75.

LAUDERHILL: Leading scores: 201: C. Strange, 68, 67, 66; 205: L. Ziegler, 63, 68, 73; T. Kite, 69, 68, 68; 206: J. Miller, 70, 70, 66; 207: J. Nicklaus, 63, 75, 69; 208: R. Floyd, 71, 69, 68; T. Purtzer, 71, 66, 71; R. Murphy, 71, 68, 69; 209: K. Fergus, 72, 70, 67; A. Bean, 69, 71, 69; C. Coody, 67, 72, 70; 217: K. Brown (GB), 75, 71, 71.

Tennis

LOS ANGELES: Women's tournament: Semi-final round: A. Jaeger beat S. Hanika (WG), 6—4, 6—3; M. Navratilova beat B. Bunge (WG), 6—4, 4—6, 6—2.

SALISBURY (Maryland): Round robin matches: V. Amritraj (India) beat E. Dibbs, 4—6, 7—6, 6—2; W. Scanlon beat M. Orantes (Spain), 3—6, 6—3, 6—2; H. Solomon beat B. Teacher, 6—3, 7—6.

DENVER: Quarter-final round: G. Mayer beat B. Manson, 6—1, 6—4; F. Buehring beat I. Nastase, 6—1, 7—6; J. Sadri beat A. Giammalva, 7—6, 7—5. Semi-final round: Mayer beat M. Purcell, 5—6, 6—3, 6—2; Sadri beat Buehring, 5—7, 6—3, 7—5.

LAS VEGAS: Semi-final round: I. Budarova (Czechoslovakia) beat M. Blackwood (Canada), 7—6, 3—6; Y. Vermaak (SA) beat K. Skronska (Czechoslovakia), 7—5, 6—0.

Show jumping

ANTWERP: International show, progressive against the clock (10 jumps): 1, T. Fruhmann (Austria), Donau, 36 pts, 31.83 secs; 2, L. Alvares Cervara (Spain), Ozaiko, 36, 32.70; 3, D. Ricketts (GB), Corals Denham, 36, 32.81; 4, J. Whittaker (GB), Miss Tina, 36, 32.93. Mixed (13 jumps): 1, W. Gabathuler (Switzerland), Harley, 29.98 secs; 2, T. Fuchs (Switzerland), Tullis Lass, 30.78; 3, T. Fruhmann, Donau, 31.26; 4, D. Broome (GB), Queensway Philco, 33.21.

Lacrosse

CWMBRAN: Women's international: Wales 4, England 15; Wales B 3, Universities Athletic Union 10.

NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Heaton Mersey 7, Old Hulmeians 9; Old Stopfordians 9, Sale 8; Old Waconians 4, Sheffield University 20; Urmston 0, Stockport 11. David Beesley Cup: Final: Birmingham University 6, Sheffield University A 17.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Buckhurst Hill 4, Hampstead 11; Kenton 4, Lee 9.

Gymnastics

PARIS: Grand Prix tournament: (floor, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars, horizontal bars): 1, S. Ryazanov (USSR), 56.85 (9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 9.60, 9.35, 9.70); 2, Fei Tong (China), 56.80 (9.65, 9.10, 9.60, 9.60, 9.55, 9.30); 3, R. Brueckner (EG), 56.15 (9.60, 9.45, 9.35, 9.55, 9.15, 9.05).

Netball

SHEFFIELD: British championship: Northern Ireland 19, Wales 38; Republic of Ireland 8, England 60; Scotland 24, Wales 37; N Ireland 21, Rep of Ireland 30; England 45, Wales 14; Rep of Ireland 21, Scotland 27; England 56, N Ireland 12; N Ireland 25, Scotland 30; Rep of Ireland 16, Wales 48; England 56, Scotland 14. Final positions: 1, England; 2, Wales; 3, Scotland; 4, N Ireland; 5, Rep of Ireland.

Cycling

BASTIA: Tour of Corsica, final stage against the clock: 1, M. Laurent (France), 22min 9sec; 2, B. Hinault (France), 22:17; 3, S. Roche (Ireland), 22:38. Overall placings: 1, Roche 9hr 20min 53sec; 2, Laurent 9:21:23; 3, Hinault 9:21:31.

Basketball

BRITISH FEDERATION CUP: Final: First leg: Sunderland 91, Fiat Birmingham 83; second leg: Fiat Birmingham 86, Sunderland 85.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Women: First division: Sheffield 55, London YWCA 60.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Denver Nuggets 121, Detroit Pistons 109; Atlanta Hawks 114, Houston Rockets 108; Utah Jazz 97, San Diego Clippers 94; Golden State Warriors 106, Seattle Supersonics 105.

Rifle shooting

NOTTINGHAM: British open single barrell championships: 1, R. Friend 98; 2, R. Mayo 95.

Racing

Milbank triumphs again with Prince Melchior

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent

Cagnes-sur-Mer, March 8

Charles Milbank, the Yorkshire-born trainer, and his accountant owner, Nigel Lathom-Sharp, took the £13,000 Grand Prix du Conseil General des Alpes-Maritimes for the second successive year with Prince Melchior at Cagnes-sur-Mer this afternoon. Bought as a pacemaker for last year's winner Hard To Sing (at present injured), Prince Melchior beat his stable companion, Chicbury, by three and a half lengths with Naamiri third. Milbank was also responsible for the fourth past the post, Duro.

The ever-consistent Prince Melchior, who paid just over 3-1 for a win on the Pari-Mutual, will be aimed at group three Prix Exbury at St-Cloud on March 21. Chicbury, the winner of last May's group three Prix de L'Esperance will contest France's top staying races, the Prix de Barbeville, Jean Prat and du Cadran.

After today's win Milbank has now won nine races and over £90,000 in prize money at Cagnes this season. Earlier in the afternoon another accountant, Sir Richard Brooke, saw his colours past the post first with Akkad in the Prix de Tunis to add another £6,000 to the Milbank total. Although still inexperienced, Akkad has shown enough promise to be allowed to take his chance in the group two Prix Greffulhe at Longchamp on April 12.

Akkad defeated La Doua by two lengths and a half in the de Tunis with Red Flash (also Milbank trained) in third place. Last year, Milbank and Brooke won the same race with Dom Aldo. Policeman, who went on to take the Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby) was eight lengths away in third place.

No go for Hughes

Rumours in Irish racing circles that Dessie Hughes will make a temporary comeback as a jump jockey for this season's National Hunt Festival, have been discounted by the now Kildare trainer. "I have no intention of taking out a licence to ride for myself or for any other trained", he said.

Nearing century mark

Michael Dickinson's five Saturday successes from eight runners, have considerably improved his prospects of saddling 100 winners in his first season as a trainer. Dickinson, now on the 69 mark, and seven clear of his closest pursuer Peter Easterby, could have nine Cheltenham representatives, depending on the going.

Newbury results

1.30: 1, Fledge (11-1); 2, Homeson (16-1); 3, Ballytop (2-1 fav). 21 ran.

2.0: 1, Captain John (11-2); 2, Staunton (100-30 fav); 3, Williamson (33-1). 12 ran. NR: Jo Colombo, Palace Dan.

2.30: 1, Gaye Chance (11-1); 2, Fort Belvedere (8-1); 3, Fauloon (4-1). Easy Fella 5-2 fav. 13 ran.

3.0: 1, Dramatist (7-2); 2, Henry Kissinger (3-1 jt fav); 3, Two Swallows (3-1 jt fav). 7 ran.

3.30: 1, Prince of Bermuda (11-2 jt fav); 2, Walnut Wonder (11-2 jt fav); 3, Hudson Bay (10-1). 14 ran.

4.0: 1, Dancing Bird (5-4 fav); 2, Sun Lion (100-30); 3, Royal Russe (6-1). 8 ran. NR: Flexability.

Haydock Park

1.45: 1, Little Owl (4-5 fav); 2, Fairy King (25-1); 3, Mr Kidd (25-1). 4 ran. NR: Anaglogs Daughter.

2.15: 1, Sunset Cristo (5-1 jt fav); 2, The Engineer (13-2); 3, Fair View (13-2). King or Country 5-1 jt fav. 8 ran. NR: Jer, Sparkie's Choice.

2.45: 1, Compton Lad (7-2); 2, The Trout (10-1); 3, Brusilee (14-1). Spartan Missile 2-5 fav. 8 ran. NR: Lone Soldier, Viking Knight, Wisten Link.

3.15: 1, Go Wimpy (13-8 fav); 2, Laurence Rambler (7-4); 3, Lucky Vane (5-1). 6 ran. NR: Caherowan.

3.45: 1, Rathgorman (6-4 jt fav); 2, Mood Music (4-1); 3, Starlight Lad (6-4 jt fav). 4 ran.

4.15: 1, Be Free (4-1); 2, Kyle of Lochalsh (evens fav); 3, Brandabra Took (10-1). 6 ran.

Market Rasen

1.30: 1, Dance Little Lady (6-1); 2, Bishops Bow (13-2); 3, Dame Sue (12-1). Mirthful 5-2 fav. 22 ran.

2.0: 1, Kenlis (11-4 fav); 2, Magic Tipp (3-1); 3, Greenways (5-1). 9 ran.

2.30: 1, Our Bara Boy (evens fav); 2, B and K Emperor (5-4); 3, Ml Dad (20-1). 5 ran.

3.0: 1, Honourable Man (4-5 fav); 2, Master Melody (13-2); 3, Scort (2-1). 5 ran.

3.30: 1, Happy Voyage (2-1); 2, Keep Trying (13-1); 3, His Revefence (11-2). Prince Bai (evens fav). 15 ran. NR: Novus King.

4.0: 1, Saint Fillans (evens fav); 2, Poker Player (5-1); 3, Artimarval (10-1). 10 ran.

Hereford

1.15: 1, Fred Pilliner (5-2 fav); 2, Sam Bennion (25-1); 3, Councillor Bill (9-1). 17 ran. NR: Sal's Delight.

1.45: 1, Princely Call (5-1); 2, Tenecoon (14-1); 3, Cartrail (5-1). 9 ran.

2.15: 1, Wild Gamble (11-2); 2, Keengaddy (8-1); 3, Moifast (11-1). 13 ran. NR: Wayward Lad.

2.45: 1, Hot Tomato (2-5 fav); 2, Just Jake (6-1); 3, Kabcau (6-1). 6 ran.

3.15: 1, Frau Mau (7-2 fav); 2, Light Snacks (7-1); 3, Avon Salmon (15-2). 18 ran.

3.45: 1, Double Negative (3-1 jt fav); 2, Sparkford (3-1 jt fav); 3, Aiaenslock (30-1). 17 ran. NR: Landfall.

4.15: 1, Maynote (7-1); 2, Tom Scoley (5-1); 3, Metrolands (25-1). 17 ran. NR: Scarlet Silk.

Sunset Cristo's triumph delights Dickinson

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

With Wayward Lad and Bregawn both ending up riderless at Haydock Park on Saturday, Michael Dickinson did not have as much to tell about when he returned home in the evening as he might have hoped for when he set out to cross the Pennines that morning. Yet he still had three winners at Haydock and two at Market Rasen, which was not a bad day's business by most people's standards.

Yet upon reflection he had even more than those bare statistics to purr about. Ironically the horse who must have given him that tingling feeling of high expectancy was not even trained by him. For with the coming Cheltenham meeting in mind surely by far the most significant performance on Saturday was Sunset Cristo's laudable effort which won him the Greenall Whitley Breweries Steeplechase.

Running for the first time since Boxing Day, Sunset Cristo succeeded in giving 19lb and a beating to The Engineer. Together they left the remainder trailing far behind towards the end of a gruelling race on heavy ground and despite his long rest Sunset Cristo was still the stronger when the time came.

No wonder Silver Buck failed to give him as much as 34 lb at Catterick Bridge in December. The fact that Silver Buck even managed to run him to a length on those terms speaks volumes for him and I know already that I will not want to look elsewhere to the winner of this year's Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham, unless the ground becomes awful there. Wayward Lad's exit handed the Timeform Steeplechase to Little Owl on a plate and did nothing to encourage anyone to think that he will survive the rigours of Cheltenham let alone beat Easter Eel, whose form was given a dramatic boost by Dramatist's victory at Newbury.

The way that Dramatist raced clean away from Henry Kissinger after the last fence reminded us not for the first time what this good but maddeningly inconsistent horse is capable of. On his day he has few superiors yet having seen him win on Saturday it is impossible to explain his defeat at the hands of Duc de Bolebec and King or Country over the same course and distance three weeks earlier. The sad aspect of the race was Midnight Court's misfortune.

He clipped the top of the first fence in the back straight and as a result just failed to get his undercarriage out. On good ground he might have got away with this spot of carelessness but on ground that had been rendered a bog by the rain that had persisted throughout, not only the previous night but also much of the day, he slipped and slithered on landing and never regained his footing. "Boring because we are none the wiser" was how his trainer Fred Winter summed up the situation later and in making that remark he surely spoke also for those connected with both Wayward Lad and Spartan Missile who had similar fates at Haydock.

Spartan Missile jumped the fence in question perfectly—arguably a shade too well—but he was caught out by the drop on landing which does not augur well for Liverpool although he has won the Foxhunter Steeplechase there twice. Another visit to Sandown Park next weekend could now be on the agenda to restore his confidence. Saturday was not a day that either his owner John Thorne or his son-in-law Nicky Henderson will want to remember.

At Newbury, Henderson had to suffer the sort of day that had frustrated another trainer, Bob Turnell, only 24 hours earlier. Only in Henderson's case he did manage to win a race, only to see the prize whipped away from him by the stewards because the horse in question, Hudson's Bay, had blatantly transgressed the rules of racing although the eventual result was not affected. And ironically it was a horse trained by Turnell, Prince of Bermuda who benefited.

STATE OF GOING (official): Windsor: soft. Sedgefield: soft. Tomorrow: Folkestone: heavy (inspection 2.30 pm); Warwick: heavy (inspection 4 pm).

Windsor programme

2.0 THAMES HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £483: 2m 30yd)

6 Don Presto, D. [illegible], 7-11-7 ... B. Davies
[illegible] Lashing Rain, R. Head, 6-11-7 ... J. Francome
11 Love Lill, R. Head, 6-11-7 ... R. Champion
12 4 Messenger of Peace, R. Frost, 5-11-7 ... Mr J. Frost 7
15 00 Moll, N. Gaselee, 5-11-7 ... —
16 0/0 Olive Green, T. Forster, 6-11-7 ... M. Floyd
17 p Paintbrush, S. Matthews, 6-11-7 ... I. Gebbie 4
21 00/0- Roella, N. Brookes, 7-11-7 ... Mr N. Brookes
22 0-p Showplace, D. Wilson, 7-11-7 ... K. Kaplan 7
25 00 Straight Up, A. Aylett, 5-11-7 ... G. Jones
[illegible] 0 Tullyash, R. Dunn, 6-11-7 ... J. Sampson 7
27 0 Waleed, W. Musson, 6-11-7 ... A. Coogan 4
28 Whoconnedwho, G. Pritchard-Gordon, 6-11-7 ... S. Smith Eccles
30 144 Champers Club, D. Werden, 4-11-4 ... P. Scudamore
32 1002 Albrizzi, J. Jenkins, 4-10-8 ... B. Reilly
34 Barg, M. Weldon, 4-10-8 ... J. F. O'Neill 7
35 0 Cardiff, R. Hoad, 4-10-8 ... R. Goldstein
36 100 Happy Yappy, R. Carter, 4-10-8 ... Mr P. Webber
38 Jimmy Jees, W. Charles, 4-10-8 ... M. Charles 1
40 044004 Quite Lucky, P. M. Taylor, 4-10-8 ... S. Knight 7
41 Teagarden, D. Sasse, 4-10-8 ... G. C. Brown

3-1 Messenger of Peace, 4-1 Albrizzi, 9-2 Quite Lucky, 6-1 Champers Club, 8-1 Lashing Rain, 10-1 Whoconnedwho, 12-1 Straight Up, 16-1 others.

2.30 FINAL OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Selling: £552: 2m 30yd)

201 20-0000 Vagabond Victor, P. Allingham, 5-12-1 ... J. Davies
204 231002 Julie Emma, H. Hodges, 5-11-11 ... M. Coyle
205 100-p0p Manawa, A. Davison, 5-11-11 ... J. [illegible] 5
206 p000p Dane Night (B), J. Criddle, 5-11-8 ... D. Hyde
207 0 Fair Balmoral, J. Bradley, 5-11-8 ... P. Liddiard
208 0 Forlorn Beauty, J. Bradley, 5-11-8 ... G. Davies
209 p0pf Hyades, G. Croad, 5-11-8 ... R. Forsyth
210 00 Kings Progress, P. M. Taylor, 5-11-8 ... S. Knightley
211 p-40 Matchless Dancer, J. Jenkins, 5-11-8 ... A. Alderman
213 000 Betrothed, R. Woodhouse, 4-10-9 ... D. Dutton
215 00f Indecisive, Mrs N. Smith, 4-10-9 ... T. [illegible]
217 Laser Gift, D. Wintle, 4-10-9 ... A. [illegible]
220 00 Rising Fast, D. Elsworth, 4-10-9 ... G. Rimpa 5
221 000 Royal Mantle, A. Pitt, 4-10-9 ... M. Scorie 5
222 Sovereign Tower, W. Charles, 4-10-9 ... C. Mann

5-2 Rising Fast, 11-4 Julie Emma, 7-2 Royal Mantle, 5-1 Matchless Dancer, 8-1 Betrothed, 12-1 others.

3.0 COLLEGE CHASE (Handicap: £896: 2m 40yd)

304 301122 Major Knight, R. Head, 7-11-10 ... J. Francome
305 121u40 Tower Moss, A. Neaves, 8-11-9 ... C. Mann 7
308 434140 Pacemen, N. Gaselee, 7-11-0 ... V. McKevitt 7
311 0/3-0f03 Benny's Boy, A. Moore, 8-10-11 ... G. Moore 4
312 000310 Tyne, Mrs D. Oughton, 6-10-11 ... R. Rowe
315 204430 Lysippe, Mrs J. Pitman, 8-10-6 ... H. Smart
316 000u3f Extrovert, D. Jermy, 9-10-2 ... B. de Haan 4
317 003000 Just Peas, J. Mowlem, 7-10-0 ... R. Lloyd
319 p000f4 Bronze Image, J. Long, 8-10-0 ... Mr T. Head

3-1 Major Knight, 100-30 Benny's Boy, 4-1 Tyne, 5-1 Tower Moss, 8-1 Pacemen, 14-1 others.

3.30 SPRING HURDLE (Handicap: £1,191: 2½m)

402 3211-00 Royal Coachman, R. Hannon, 7-12-2 ... J. King
403 400000 Farmer, R. Hawker, 6-11-12 ... A. Holder 7
404 0-30243 Toyco, F. Beeson, 6-11-12 ... R. Goldstein
408 330f00/ Brave Kid, W. Mann, 11-11-1 ... A. Webb
410 0-31p00 Membridge, P. Dufosee, 6-10-13 ... Mr P. Hobbs
411 0030-00 Mourndyke, R. Atkins, 9-10-10 ... R. Atkins
413 0/00000 Grand Rose, M. Stephens, 8-10-9 ... Miss C. Young 7
417 113320/ David Brian, S. Mellor, 9-10-5 ... A. Carroll
418 00000f Master Kea, M. Haynes, 7-10-5 ... —
419 2-43030 Robin Hood, B. Palling, 6-10-4 ... P. Barry
420 021-00f Taras, A. Aylett, 5-10-4 ... G. Jones
421 0fp10/0 Willie May, K. Bailey, 8-10-2 ... A. Webber
427 10/0000 Island Star (D), N. Henderson, 8-10-1 ... J. Hughes 7
429 044000 Jackadandy (B), A. Moore, 10-10-0 ... G. Moore 4
431 004p10 Topping, C. Ham, 10-10-0 ... Mrs J. Hembrow
432 fr0000 Errantry, D. Jermy, 6-10-0 ... R. Hughes
433 000041/ Jack Mytton, D. Gandolfo, 7-10-0 ... P. Barton
434 420000 Citadel Roc, J. Bradley, 6-10-0 ... G. Davies 7
435 400000 Florindo, D. Wintle, 7-10-0 ... A. Walton 7
437 00b010 Law Bench, R. Hodges, 9-10-0 ... M. Coyle 3
438 u/00f-02 Shakyamonce, A. Davison, 7-10-0 ... M. Bunham 4
440 000012 Glen Wise, B. Wise, 5-10-0 ... J. Akehurst 7
441 f-00030 Ballycorn, A. Pitt, 6-10-0 ... —
442 00430p Rodney Parade (B), M. Salaman, 6-10-0 ... J. Kear 4
443 40/000-0 Tahini, J. Cann, 14-10-0 ... S. G. Knight
447 p21-030 Yukon Flash (D), A. Davison, 7-10-0 ... M. Harrington 7

4-1 Toyco, 5-1 Mourndyke, 6-1 Farmer, 13-2 Glen Wise, 8-1 Taras, 10-1 Royal Coachman, 12-1 Grand Rose, 14-1 Robin Hood, 16-1 Membridge, 20-1 others.

4.0 MARCH CHASE (Handicap: £1,501: 3½m)

501 14-1391 Peter Scot (D), D. Gandolfo, 10-12-0 ... P. Barton
504 00214f Martinstown, Mrs M. Easton, 9-11-5 ... Mr M. Batters 7
508 2-31431 Special Cargo, F. Walwyn, 8-10-1 ... W. Smith
509 002023 Midday Welcome, Mrs E. Harden, 10-10-0 ... B. de Haan 4
512 323123 Physicist, J. Gifford, 9-10-0 ... R. Rowe
513 02-0402 Nampara (CD, B), L. Dudgeon, 10-10-0 ... P. Scudamore
516 210014 Albury Lad, S. Mellor, 11-10-0 ... S. Tobar
518 2202p0 Abo, A. Moore, 9-10-0 ... G. Moore 4
522 410020 Delopea (B), W. Shreedy, 10-10-0 ... Mrs L. Shreedy 1
523 040012 Miss Pilgrim, B. Wise, 7-10-0 ... R. Rowell
525 000000 Ormonde Tudor, J. Long, 12-10-0 ... C. Mann 7
527 604134 Young John, Mrs E. Harden, 9-10-0 ... P. Hobbs
531 pp440-0 Moonee River, Mrs K. Wallace, 13-10-0 ... Miss J. Wallace 7

7-4 Special Cargo, 7-2 Peter Scot, 5-1 Nampara, 8-1 Physicist, 10-1 Albury Lad, 12-1 Midday Welcome, 14-1 Miss Pilgrim, 16-1 others.

4.30 THAMES HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £483: 2m 30yd)

601 143400 Eggleton Lad, M. Stephens, 8-12-5 ... M. Barrett 4
603 000410 Radnorcliffe, A. Moore, 5-12-5 ... G. Moore 4
606 23 Corduroy, D. [illegible], 5-11-7 ... B. Davies
613 0 Good Bird, B. Palling, 8-11-7 ... P. Christopher 7
615 243302 Leith Hill Flyer, A. Pitt, 6-11-7 ... I. Cox 4
617 Loch Slov, M. Hompkins, 5-11-7 ... C. Smith
621 6210 The Still, J. Webber, 6-11-7 ... Mr P. Webber
622 232011 Miss Kuwait, J. Jenkins, 4-11-4 ... B. Reilly
625 043 City Link Express, P. Ashworth, 4-10-8 ... R. Rowe 1
627 000 Fast Green, Mrs N. Smith, 4-10-8 ... J. Webb
629 f0 Hor Excellency, I. Bridger, 4-10-8 ... H. Jenkins 7
631 0 Jim's Tricks, D. Long, 4-10-8 ... K. Mooney
634 00 Malaquid, P. M. Taylor, 4-10-8 ... S. Knightley 7
636 Mr Molo, Mrs D. Oughton, 4-10-8 ... S. [illegible]
637 000 Quayside Battle, T. M. Jones, 4-10-8 ... A. Webber
638 63003 Shoulitout, J. Cann, 4-10-8 ... S. G. Knight
641 002000 Wimrey, R. Hoad, 4-10-8 ... R. Goldstein

7-2 City Link Express, 4-1 Leith Hill Flyer, 5-1 Corduroy, 13-2 Jim's Tricks, 8-1 Shoulitout, 10-1 Miss Kuwait, 12-1 The Still, 20-1 others.

Windsor selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.0 Quite Lucky. 2.30 Betrothed. 3.0 Major Knight. 3.30 Toyco. 4.0 Special Cargo. 4.30 City Link Express.

Sedgefield programme

2.15 CROOK HURDLE (Selling handicap: £444: 2m)

8 u24pp0- Retaliation, V. Thompson, 11-10-10 ... Mr J. W[illegible]
9 34-20f0 Malcolms Pride, A. Smith, 7-10-8 ... C. [illegible]
10 01310p Pretty Boy Floyd (CD), G. Lockerbie, 6-10-8 ... A. Stringer
11 003-p0p Bert's Courage (B), W. Preece, 8-10-7 ... Mr S. Dick[illegible]
15 000132 Warren Gorse (CD), H. Fleming, 7-10-4 ... S. [illegible]
16 3-00-000 Summer Saint (D), T. [illegible], 7-10-1 ... [illegible]
17 p0-fpp0 Bishop's Jewel, W. D. Francis, 8-10-0 ... Capt Lord J. Fitz[illegible]
19 00440p Pearl's Fantasy, P. Asquith, 5-10-0 ... C. [illegible]
20 1-0p000 Slaney Sid (D, B), J. Doyle, 7-10-0 ... J. [illegible]
21 000-0-f0 Willyboy, A. Potts, 6-10-0 ... D. A[illegible]
22 1020/0-0 Barleycroft Star (D), D. [illegible], 7-10-0 ... S. [illegible]
23 30-0432 Celeia Prince (C), R. Fisher, 12-10-0 ... P. [illegible]
24 0C000 Salvaiou (B), J. Blundell, 4-10-0 ... D. Walkinshaw
25 3/0030-0 Gin Track, P. Bowker, 7-10-0 ... Mr M. [illegible]
28 0-0f0 Spartan Sparrow, F. [illegible], 8-10-0 ... Miss J. [illegible]
30 0p00-0 Lucky Dak, N. Waggott, 7-10-0 ... G. [illegible]
32 002000 Silken Sand, N. Waggott, 5-10-0 ... Mr N. Waggott

5-2 Warren Gorse, 9-2 Pretty Boy Floyd, 5-1 Malcolms Pride, 6-1 Celeia Prince, 8-1 Slaney Sid, 10-1 Pearl's Fantasy, 11-1 Summer Saint, Retaliation, 20-1 others.

2.45 NORTON HURDLE (Handicap: £704: 2½m)

4 2/1f4-p0 Whitby Jet (D), J. Townson, 7-11-12 ... D. Lancaster
6 3/012-00 Zamandra (D), [illegible], 7-10-10 ... [illegible]
7 p-pf0p0 French Art (B), N. Tyerrell, 9-10-0 ... W. Wilkinson
8 432/0-00 Urser, M. W. Easterby, 7-10-4 ... [illegible]
[illegible] 002020 Lough Street, G. Lockerbie, 8-10-8 ... [illegible]
13 120000 Cap Too, J. Blundell, 5-10-6 ... A. Stringer
14 02u004 Chebbie, A. Smith, 8-10-4 ... [illegible]
15 12-00-p0 Habbersupreme (B), [illegible], 7-10-0 ... [illegible]
16 f0-0C00- Beau Brigg, R. Cross, 9-10-0 ... Mrs A. [illegible]
17 0003-4 True Friend, [illegible], 7-10-0 ... [illegible]
18 000023 Stormy Affair (D), P. Bowker, 8-10-0 ... J. Errington
20 000000 Fondoch (D), [illegible], 9-10-0 ... Miss [illegible]
21 000300 Irish Prince (CD), J. Doyle, 8-10-0 ... [illegible]
22 000400 Grayhouse Angus, C. [illegible], 8-10-0 ... N. [illegible]
24 0-00000 Dras Lass, J. Parkes, 5-10-0 ... D. [illegible]
25 0/r000-0 Uncle Vanya, [illegible], 11-10-0 ... A. [illegible]
26 020030 Wedded Bliss, D. Garraton, 5-10-0 ... Mr T. Wal[illegible]

3-1 Urser, 4-1 Zamandra, 5-1 Lough Street, 6-1 True Friend, 8-1 Chebbie, 10-1 Irish Prince, 12-1 Whitby Jet, 14-1 Stormy Affair, 16-1 others.

3.15 ROBIN SIMPSON CHASE (Handicap: £814: 2m)

1 41f0f3 My Buck (D), M. Dickinson, 9-12-7 ... T. Carr
2 13-1n23 Cape Felix (D), G. Richards, 8-12-2 ... R. [illegible]
3 01p402 Rigorous (C, B), Mrs J. Simpson, 10-11-8 ... [illegible]
5 p-032sp Fidler on the Hoof, T. [illegible], 12-11-7 ... D. [illegible]
7 244000 Tregarnie, T. [illegible] ... M. [illegible]
12 13-0004 Melmerby (CD), [illegible], 8-10-0 ... S. Char[illegible]
17 C000-03 Troops Tale, W. D. Francis, 8-10-0 ... [illegible]

7-1 My Buck, 2-1 Cape Felix, 9-2 Melmerby, 6-1 Rigorous, 10-1 Fidler on the Hoof, 12-1 others.

3.45 DURHAM NATIONAL CHASE (Handicap: £1,648: 3½m)

2 3n041-0 Unruly Sun, T. Craig, 12-11-7 ... A. Br[illegible]
5 231122 Running Wild (C), W. A. Stephenson, 7-10-8 ... [illegible]
7 p41042 Skiddaw View, J. Dixon, 13-10-1 ... [illegible]
10 320020 Phone Boy, [illegible] Robinson, 11-10-0 ... [illegible]
11 0u2204 The Manufacturer, R. [illegible], 9-10-0 ... P. T[illegible]
12 03u020 Prince Token, J. Gill, 10-10-0 ... Mr H. [illegible]
13 C01322 What a Coup, T. Dalgetti, 9-10-0 ... [illegible]
15 020/00 Silver Mount (B), G. Lockerbie, 10-10-0 ... C. Hawk[illegible]

2-1 Running Wild, 7-2 The Manufacturer, 5-1 What a Coup, 6-1 Skiddaw View, 7-1 Unruly Sun, 10-1 Phone Boy, 12-1 others.

4.15 CASTLE EDEN CHASE (Novices: £262: 3m 600yd)

6 02-0f3 Amazon Prince, R. Jeffrey, 9-11-1 ... Mrs C. [illegible]
8 0r-uf00 Athen's Pride, T. Plunkett, 7-11-1 ... A. Bro[illegible]
9 0 Bill Wickham, [illegible], 10-11-1 ... N. Doug[illegible]
11 3-p0r42 Brookroyd, J. Doyle, 7-11-1 ... A. Stringer
12 0000-p Battello, J. Jordan, 6-11-1 ... [illegible]
14 pp-cf00 Carumba, Mrs L. Brown, 6-11-1 ... P. Charl[illegible]
15 00-0p Donhill, M. Dickinson, 7-11-1 ... R. Turnb[illegible]
17 fp032u Ellen Louise, T. Robson, 8-11-1 ... Mr P. [illegible]
19 0-4 Hardy Fellow, K. Oliver, 7-11-1 ... Mr T. D[illegible]
21 0f0-0 Midnight Love, [illegible], 6-11-1 ... [illegible]
23 0f-0nb0 Moselaar, J. Thomson, 7-11-1 ... Mr P. Cr[illegible]
25 1003-0f Rae Robin (B), R. Tate, 8-11-1 ... Mr R. T[illegible]
30 C3-0000 Thimothea, T. Craig, 6-11-1 ... [illegible]
31 00/0-0 Tunnel Master, J. [illegible], 8-11-1 ... C. [illegible]
32 224023 Young Sagret, J. Charlton, 8-11-1 ... Mr D. [illegible]
33 00000 General Factotum, W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-1 ... [illegible]

15-8 Midnight Love, 9-2 Young Sagret, 11-2 Brookroyd, 8-1 Amazon Prince, 10-1 Tunnel Master, 12-1 Hardy Fellow, 14-1 others.

4.45 GROVE HURDLE (Novices: £215: 2½m)

1 423-p0 Belle Isle Boy (F), W. I. Smith, 7-11-8 ... Mrs A. Gra[illegible]
2 1002 Coral John, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-8 ... [illegible]
3 000000 Glendene, J. Kettlewell, 5-11-5 ... S. Kettlewell
4 10000 Grey Eagle, T. Craig, 5-11-5 ... A. Brown
5 040221 My Reppin, [illegible] Smith, 5-11-5 ... [illegible]
12 00 Corner Sal (F), M. [illegible], 5-10-12 ... D. Oldham
13 0- Hathern Eve, P. [illegible], 5-10-12 ... [illegible]
16 0 Invisible Man, F. [illegible], 6-10-12 ... [illegible]
17 0u04u Loch Spartan, W. A. Stephenson, 7-10-12 ... T. O'Connell
18 1f194-p Many a Chance, Miss J. Thompson, 7-10-12 ... S. Charlton
19 Old Shot, R. Hall, 7-10-12 ... [illegible]
21 00-0 Quite a Boy, M. Dickinson, 8-10-12 ... T. [illegible]
23 0-000 Rich Discovery, E. [illegible], 5-10-12 ... Mr D. [illegible]
25 0f Rober, T. Hall, 5-10-12 ... [illegible]
26 00 Steam Word, [illegible], 5-10-12 ... Mr J. Hall
27 032200 Dorothy Kate, S. Nesbitt, 5-10-7 ... P. [illegible]
29 0 Gibbs Garden, [illegible], 5-10-7 ... [illegible]
30 000 Will Gulf, J. Birchham, 5-10-7 ... [illegible]

5-1 Coral John, 7-2 Quite a Boy, 5-1 Loch Spartan, 6-1 My Reppin, 7-1 Belle Isle Boy, 8-1 Grey Eagle, 12-1 Dorothy Kate, 14-1 others.

Sedgefield selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.15 Warren Gorse. 2.45 Chebbie. 3.15 Cape Felix. 3.45 Running Wild. 4.15 Midnight Love. 4.45 Quite a Boy.

SPORT

Rugby Union

Blakeway's injury casts a shadow

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Ireland 6 England 10

There were renewed fears yesterday that the departure of England's tight head prop, Philip Blakeway, which so transformed the scrummaging scene at Lansdowne Road on Saturday, may presage the end of his rugby career. Preliminary X-rays appear to have confirmed an initial diagnosis that he had pinched a nerve in the neck. But this must be set against a background in which, in the mid-seventies, he spent 18 months out of the game after breaking a bone in the same area.

The national selectors, awaiting a full medical report, will leave his position open this morning when they announce the team which they hope will stop a French grand slam at Twickenham on Saturday week, and give England a share of the championship. However encouraging the next bulletin on Blakeway may be, it seems probable that the tight head prop against France will be Austin Sheppard (Bristol), who was capped as a replacement for Fran Cotton against Wales, or Gary Pearce (Northampton), who played throughout the championship two years ago. But the more mobile Gosforth prop, Jeffrey Bell, must also be in the running.

There will be sympathy for an Irish side whose forwards lifted themselves to their finest effort of the season but remain pointless after three matches. Yet they could not capitalize on the clear advantage that Blakeway's absence gave them, whereas England had the resilience to last the course well, to contrive two fine tries on their own account, and to achieve a victory, by a goal and a try to two dropped goals, that in all the circumstances was honourably earned.

It must be added, however, that Ireland in the second quarter almost certainly would have rung down the curtain on English hopes if Campbell had not sliced a 35-metre penalty, or if Irwin, charging down a clearance kick by Rose, had not missed a try by the proverbial whisker as the ball skidded into touch in goal.

That was not the only early mistake perpetrated by England's new full back in a really testing and swirling wind that caused some problems for his opposite number too. Yet he was soon to emerge as a hero. When England spun the ball left behind a scrummage with a misspass by Dodge to Slemen, Rose on the end of his line had the pace to sweep past MacNeill's attempted tackle and to run in a remarkable try from just inside the Irish half.


Dodge, living up to his name, leaves Slattery trailing as he runs in England's second try.

What is more, in the second period he had the vision and enterprise, when collecting a long drop-out by Campbell, to spark off the decisive score. The ball went smoothly via Davies and Slemen for Woodward to draw the last defender and send in Dodge for his first try in an England jersey. Rose then kicked a simple goal. For a second time this season Campbell had cause to rue the result of a drop out. But Dodge had made amends for a knockon, not long before, that probably cost England another try when they looked to have a clear overlap.

From a visitor's stand-point, the try by Rose, shortly before the interval, could not have been better timed. By then, in spite of a commanding English start, a dummy and scything break by Irwin had inspired the Irish forwards, two drop goals had produced a handy Irish lead, and Blakeway's removal had left his scrummage in disarray. Uncharacteristically, it was a sliced clearance by Slemen, of all people, that led to the first points, by MacNeill, from the 10 metres line. A solid Irish scrummage put Campbell in business for three more.

Having rolled back their opponents at the start of the game, England, without a specialist tight head replacement, brought on Gordon Sargent for his first cap, switched Smart to the tight head side for all but one of the remaining scrummages, and endured a long period of distress.

For 10 minutes in the final quarter Ireland laid siege to their opponents' line, but English defence, discipline—giving away no penalties—and organization never wavered. In this period, when there were eight lineouts (six Irish throws) and seven scrummages (four Irish put-ins), England had to be grateful for a revitalized platform in the tight, the rapport between scrum half and No 8, the kicking of Smith and Slemen, and some wrong options by the Irish.

Not the least pleasing feature of the English performance lay in the rounded skills of Huw Davies who revealed much sang-froid under pressure, and gave the impression that he had been playing at this level, thoroughly enjoying the experience, for many moons. From Colclough at lock there was more commitment than hitherto this season, but he is not as yet the Colclough of 1980.

The Irish selectors have made two changes for the match against Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday week. Robbie McGrath (Wanderers) has been recalled for his fourth cap at scrum half in place of Robbie and a new cap, Ken Hooks, aged 22, of Queen's University, will take over from Frank Quinn on the right wing.

IRELAND: H. P. MacNeill (Dublin University); F. P. Quinn (Old Belvedere), D. G. Irwin (Queen's University), S. O. Campbell (Old Belvedere), A. C. McLennan (Wanderers); A. J. P. Ward (Garryowen); J. C. Robbie (Greystones); P. A. Orr (Old Wesley), P. C. Whelan (Garryowen), M. P. Fitzpatrick (Wanderers), M. I. Keane (Lansdowne), B. O. Foley (Shannon), J. B. O'Driscoll (London Irish), W. P. Duggan (Blackrock College), J. F. Slattery (Blackrock College, captain).

ENGLAND: W. M. H. Rose (Cambridge University); J. Carleton (Orrell), P. W. Dodge (Leicester), C. R. Woodward (Leicester), M. A. C. Slemon (Liverpool); G. H. Davies (Cambridge University), S. J. Smith (Sale); C. E. Smart (Newport), P. J. Wheeler (Leicester), P. J. Blakeway (Gloucester) (rep. G. A. F. Sargent, Gloucester), W. B. Beaumont (Fylde, captain), M. J. Colclough (Angoulême), N. C. Jeavons (Moseley), J. P. Scott (Cardiff), D. H. Cooke (Harlequins).

Referee: J-P Bonnet (France).

Guerrilla struggle goes the way of the French

From Nicholas Keith
Paris, March 7

France 19 Wales 15

France ruggedly restored some pride at Parc des Princes today and are one victory away from their third grand slam with a supposedly transitional team. They beat Wales by a try and five penalties to a goal and three penalties. However, the bellicose mood of both packs dented the dignity of rugby and blackened the players' reputations as well as their bodies. It was not open warfare, as in the disgraceful England-Wales game at Twickenham last year, but a fierce guerrilla struggle which led to some unpleasant fighting and two public warnings from the referee, Alan Welsby.

But first the prologue. France have bitter memories of their defeat in Cardiff last year when they accused Wales of excessive aggression and, lest any Frenchman had forgotten, the old wounds were opened, even in the programme notes. In fact there were only five survivors on each side from 1980 but this did nothing to assuage the animosity.

Pity Mr Welsby in only his third international (his second was Wales v France in 1978). The job of an international referee is hard and it would be invidious to blame him for the foul tempers of the players. However, tougher measures were called for than mere warnings—a dismissal or two was the order of the day—and, unfortunately, he missed some scuffles between the forwards because he was following the play too closely. These days referees need a thousand eyes and it is a shame that touch judges, though the laws allow them to do so, cannot intervene without undermining his authority.

All praise is due to Jean-Pierre Rives, the French captain, who was at his magnificent best at flank forward and rallied his team by example when they flagged early in the second half. Clive Burgess for Wales was not far behind Rives and he capped a stalwart day by preventing a certain try in the first half with a crunching tackle on Imbernon which caused the French lock to drop the ball as he crossed the line.

Indeed it was a glorious afternoon for loose forwards in a tight game. Joinel and Squire had a coruscating duel at No 8. However, there must be reservations about Squire's qualities of leadership; twice in 11 months he has captained Wales in matches where rugby often has taken second place to brawling.

The Welsh are certainly in a negative frame of mind at present. They have convinced themselves that the National XV has such severe limitations that they must restrict themselves to the sort of game which spoils and destroys the opposition's possession in the hope that a favourable referee will provide opportunities for penalty points. This attitude can be self-defeating: Wales found against France, as they had against England, that both sides were so intent on destruction that neither won much decent possession at scrummage and lineout: the result was a dour, scrappy spectacle, unsatisfactory from every point of view.

At least there was some comfort for Wales behind the scrummage in a renascent Richards who scored a lovely individual try and looked generally more composed.

Wales had a wonderful start with a penalty goal in the first minute by the improving Evans. Thereafter the first half relaxed into a state of chaos and contusion. France levelled through Gabernet after Wales had collapsed a scrummage near their line. The French twice took the lead through Laporte but Evans restored the balance each time and, in doing so, atoned for a personal lapse because the second of Laporte's penalties was given after the Welsh full back did not release the ball when he ran into touch.

At the start of the second half France went to sleep, or perhaps they were shellshocked. Wales worked like demons and were rewarded when Richards took a pass from Williams, his scrum half, in the stand-off position and dismissed the French cover with a shrug and a feint. Evans converted.

The French had lost touch and were further chastened when Mesny had to replace the injured Bertranne, who was playing in his 65th international (his 49th against an International Board team). Now Rives detonated a powerful counterblast and, after a furious assault, Joinel and Berbizier sent Gabernet over from short range. Laporte, who missed the easy conversion, kicked a third penalty to give France the lead and Gabernet, a solid full back in every respect, had the final say with a penalty in injury-time after another collapsed scrummage.

This was a sweet and sour revenge for France but they may not be up to completing the grand slam at Twickenham, so often their bogey ground. England should feel confident of having a distinct advantage at the lineout, and equality in the scrummage. The battle 14 days hence among the loose forwards and backs will be thrilling and decisive.

FRANCE: S. Gabernet (Toulouse); S. Blanco (Biarritz), R. Bertranne (Bagnères) (rep. P. Mesny, Grenoble), D. Codorniou (Narbonne), L. Pardo (Bayonne); G. Laporte (Graulhet), P. Berbizier (Lourdes); P. Dospital (Bayonne), P. Dintrans (Tarbes), R. Paparemborde (Pau), J.-F. Imbernon (Perpignan), D. Revallier (Graulhet), J.-P. Rives (Toulouse, captain), J.-L. Joinel (Brive), P. Lacans (Béziers).

WALES: G. Evans (Maesteg); C. F. W. Rees (London Welsh), R. W. R. Gravell (Llanelli), D. S. Richards (Swansea), D. L. Nicholas (Llanelli); G. P. Pearce (Bridgend), G. Williams (Bridgend); I. Stephens (Bridgend), A. J. Phillips (Cardiff), G. Price (Pontypool), A. J. Martin (Aberavon), G. A. D. Wheel (Swansea), R. C. Burgess (Ebbw Vale), J. Squire (Pontypool, captain), J. R. Lewis (Cardiff).

Referee: A. Welsby (England).

International table

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	3	0	54	37	6
England	3	2	1	52	44	4
Wales	4	2	2	51	61	4
Ireland	3	0	3	27	38	0

To play: March 21—England v France; Scotland v Ireland.

Schoolboys make selection no easier

By Richard Streeton

Those who watch 19-group football regularly say there has been a great levelling of playing skills in recent years and that the task of the selectors has seldom been harder. This year's final England trial at Loughborough Grammar School on Saturday confirmed the trend. It also brought evidence that present standards of forward play were higher than those among the backs.

On the school pitch where Marcus Rose learned his skills not too long ago, there was, for scratch teams, some well-developed rucking, mauling, and lineout work. Some of the set pieces were less commendable, with instances of rugby's current evil, the deliberately collapsed scrummage. Presumably boys are not taught this and they can only be following the example of their elders. The referee, to his credit, quickly dealt with the offenders.

Behind the scrummage the backs had to contend with a greasy ball and other problems stemming from a cold, blustery cross-wind, and wet and muddy conditions. There were also some speedy and aggressive flankers on view. One way and another it was, therefore, hardly a day for handling, but even so the absence of runners with instinctive flair was noticeable. There was a lot of unselfish passing and at least there was little kicking done from the hand. But few openings were carved in midfield and moving the ball to the winger was invariably the prime tactic. In defence, there was too much high tackling.

What began as a match between evenly balanced teams labelled Green and Yellow became increasingly hard for spectators to follow as the different bands of unit selectors shuffled their cards. There were 10 changes at half-time, including instances of players switching sides, and some later alterations included the back divisions each swapping jerseys with their opposite number at three-quarter time. Clearly it will not be for any lack of thoroughness if the right combination does not emerge.

The selectors will announce their team to meet England Colts at the Wasps Ground on March 15 (kick-off 11 o'clock) in London tomorrow. The colts are the same age but comprise those who have now left school. England's other 19 group internationals this winter are against Scotland (Edinburgh, April 14); Ireland (Dublin, April 18); Wales (Bridgend, April 22); and France (West Hartlepool, April 25).

A feature of the trial was that the Yellows invariably had the best equipped pack. If some harassed officials and proud parents, between them, correctly informed your correspondent of who was who amid the comings and goings, Pickavance looked a good technician at prop, and J. M. Wells was an efficient lock. Roy, who played both at No 8 and as a flanker, had a good match for the Greens.

Wiles and Taylor looked the more skilful of the half-back pairings. Hughes created one opening for an excellent try; Evans on the wing was always thrustful as a runner and dribbler. Goodwin and Metcalfe in the later stages both ran strongly, and to good effect. Arntzen looked a natural footballer and kicker at full back.

The teams that started the trial:

GREEN: G. P. Muldoon (Cowley); B. J. Evans (John Cleveland College, Hinckley), D. Conway (RGS, Newcastle), J. G. Hughes (Haydon, Northwood), J. C. W. Beazley (Bedford); P. Wiles (Chosen Hill, Gloucester), M. J. Taylor (Cowley, captain); A. C. Flanders (Plymouth), A. Evangelou (Queen Elizabeth, Barnet), P. G. G. Richardson (Millfield), J. S. C. Morrison (Wellington), T. C. Wells (RGS, Worcester), G. M. Seire (Devizes), D. G. Roy (Cowley), J. M. Wheeler (King Edward VI, Stourbridge).

YELLOW: C. W. Arntzen (RGS, Worcester); A. D. G. Lennox (Dulwich), J. M. Goodwin (King Edward VI, Five Ways), I. Aspinall (Cowley), I. J. Arnold (Cowley); S. M. Smith (Bedford), M. S. Hales (King's School, Worcester, captain); S. G. C. Orritt (High Tunstall, Hartlepool), M. B. Nicholson (Kirkbie Kendal), N. D. Pickavance (Cowley), W. M. C. Silleman (Wellington), D. Richards (John Cleveland, Hinckley), J. M. Wells (Thomas Magnus, Newark), P. Alston (Wooton Upper School, Bedford), N. F. Castleton (Pocklington).

Additional players used included: D. S. Scriven (King Edward VI, Stourbridge), A. E. Shephard (Trent), A. A. Underwood (Brighton College), J. L. Metcalfe (West Park HS), K. G. Whichello (Sevenoaks), S. E. Russell (Burford CS), M. Kane (Whitehaven GS).

Referee: I. Brown (North Midlands).

Welsh prove better at relaxation

By Gordon Allan

London Welsh 20 PSW 15

This match at Old Deer Park yesterday is believed to be the first in which London Welsh have played Public School Wanderers at 15-a-side level. Many will remember their Middlesex sevens finals at Twickenham, in 1972 and 1973, both won narrowly by the Welsh. It was close yesterday too, closer than at one time seemed likely. The Welsh, with their forwards playing especially well, scored two goals and two tries, Wanderers three tries and a dropped goal.

It was a relaxed occasion—too relaxed sometimes if it was competitiveness you were after. Wanderers put out a team of Barbarian strength. There were four internationals in the backs and four in forwards. But for a while they were not a team in the way the Welsh were. They knew each other socially, but that was all. As a consequence, they were 12—0 down in 12 minutes and 20—7 down at half-time. They came together a little better in the second half and scored twice. If they could have brought their wings into the game more often, instead of going in for midfield elaboration, they would probably have won.

The result did not matter. It never does in Wanderers matches. Enjoyment is their traditional object. But it is worth mentioning that Ebsworth missed all his place-kicks at goal. In his usual form he might have won it off his own boot. He did, however, drop a goal and make the break for the first of Trick's two tries. Wilson helped with both. The second was the best of the match. Wilson ran from his own half almost to the Welsh 22 and Trick's speed and strength did the rest.

The Welsh tries were scored by Walbyoff, Hurley (two) and Ellis-Jones. George kicked two conversions. Walbyoff's try was a freak. George sent a penalty kick wide, the ball bounced in front of Preston in his own goal area, and Walbyoff got his hand to it first.

LONDON WELSH: A. Clements; J. Hurley, M. Walbyoff, M. Williams, R. Ellis-Jones; K. Hopkins, I. George; J. Deacon, R. John, B. Bradley, D. Hoade, H. Thomas (rep. C. Dow), K. Bowring, E. Lewis, J. Manfield.

PUBLIC SCHOOL WANDERERS: R. Wilson (London Scottish); D. Trick (Bath), N. Preston (Richmond), A. Morley (Bristol), S. Maisey (Coventry); M. Ebsworth (Northampton), P. Kingston (Gloucester); A. Sheppard (Bristol), K. Kennedy (London Irish), C. Meredith (Metropolitan Police), R. Wilkinson (Bedford), S. Boyle (Gloucester), S. Jones (Bath), N. Pomphrey (Bristol), J. Watkins (Gloucester).

Referee: E. Larcombe (London).

Scotland's game is poetry on a wet and windy day

By Iain Mackenzie

Scotland B 18, France B 4

Perhaps Scotland should play all their games in Burns country. Less than a mile from the poet's cottage on the outskirts of Ayr, a talented Scottish side defeated with surprising ease a French XV reputed to be almost as good as its senior partner.

The margin of two goals and two penalty goals to a late try is more than adequate indication of the difference between the teams; on the one hand Scotland, enthusiastic and assured, on the other a disappointing French side few of whom did their rugby future much good. Their pack was pushed back constantly and when the ball reached the three-quarters, they made little use of it.

Perhaps that was why the full back, Sallefranque, decided to ignore them and go through on his own 10 minutes from time for what proved to be France's only score. It was a first-class individual effort, taking him through a defence by then lulled into false security. The kick was missed, as were all the others taken by Thiot at stand-off half, and this contributed in some measure to France's downfall.

At first it seemed that Scotland would fare no better in the matter of goal-kicking. Dods was well wide with his first two shots, but recovered his poise and resumed his challenge for Irvine's crown with a conversion and two penalty goals rounding off a sound display in the rear.

Yet is was a day for individual consolidation rather than advancement. The pitch was heavy and wind-driven rain slanting diagonally across the field made life difficult. Hunter at times had some trouble getting in his normally lengthy pass from the base of the scrum, despite the Scottish pack's dominance, and the backs seldom moved as a unit.

The first try was entirely a forward affair. Smith, a powerful force but without the spark of genius he showed in the trial in January, fed Lillington who went over. Wilson converted, and did so again when the French tried to run the ball along their own line, Mothe dropped it and Armstrong had only to fall on it to score.

SCOTLAND B: P. Dods (Gala); A. Armstrong (Jordanhill), H. Burnett (Heriot's), A. Kennedy (Watsonians, capt), G. Baird (Kelso); K. Wilson (Boroughmuir), I. Hunter (Selkirk); G. McGuinness (West of Scotland), R. Cunningham (Gosforth), J. Fraser (London Scottish), I. McKie (Sale), T. Smith (Gala), J. Borthindssen (Gala), P. Lillington (Durham University), R. Paxton (Kelso).

FRANCE B: M. Sallefranque (Dax); M. Fabre (Béziers), P. Mothe (Agen), J. Castagnet (Pau), C. Martinez (Béziers); J. Thiot (Brive), P. Vachier (Avignon, capt); R. Steffanutti (USAP), J. Bortolucci (Auch), J. Yanci (Le Boucau), A. Lorieux (Grenoble), S. Michel (Nîmes), J. Gratton (Agen), F. Popoinjack (Grenoble), Y. Allegre (USAP).

Referee: F. Howard (Lancashire).

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Ireland 6, England 10; France 19, Wales 15.
B INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Scotland 18, France 4.
INTER-SERVICE TOURNAMENT: The Army 3, Royal Navy 7.
CLUB MATCHES: Bath 52, Camborne 0; Birmingham 4, Roundhay 19; Blackheath 3, Moseley 7; Broughton Park 31, Loughborough Students 4; Cambridge University 15, Metropolitan Police 16; Cheltenham 13, Harrogate 15; Durham City 3, Sheffield 6; Fylde 27, Langholm 7; Hawick 29, Jedforest 0; Heriot's FP 61, Leith Academicals 15; Huddersfield 0, Wakefield 13; Hull and East Riding 4, New Brighton 9; Kilmarnock 10, Selkirk 10; Leicester 29, Harlequins 6; Liverpool 13, Northern 0; Manchester 0, Morley 8; Middlesbrough 15, West Hartlepool 6; Nottingham 17, Headingley 10; Richmond 4, London Scottish 7; Rugby 5, Oxford University 15; Sale 0, Gosforth 17; Saracens 6, Nuneaton 3; Wasps 15, Coventry 7; Waterloo 16, North of Ireland 16; Watsonians 16, Hartlepool Rovers 17; West of Scotland 18, Ayr 19; Wilmslow 9, Orrell 13. Cancelled: Jordanhill v Stewarts-Melville FP.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Austin Friars 10, Cotton 4; Chislehurst & Sidcup GS 5, Gravesend 19; Eltham 7, Dartford 0; Gunnersbury HS 4, William Ellis 13; Netherlands Youth XV 4, Haberdashers' Aske's, Hatcham 6; Kingsbury 0, Beverley 4; King's, Macclesfield 7, Kirkham 6; Normanton FHS 0, Ripperholme GS 3; West Park 3, King Edward VII, Lytham 3.
ROVIGO: International match: Italy 9, France 17.

Navy seize initiative and Services title

By Peter Marson

Royal Navy 7 The Army 3

The Royal Navy became the inter-service champions for the 15th time and won the Stewart Wrightson Trophy for good measure at Twickenham on Saturday, when they beat the Army by a try and a penalty goal to a penalty goal. The series between these two sides, which was officially begun in 1907, was thus made more acute with the Army's lead reduced to three.

The afternoon was wet and windy and, of course, weather of this kind can impose certain restrictions on the style of play. Both sides deserve congratulations, therefore, on their determination to adopt an attacking policy, seeking advancement with the ball moving from hand to hand.

The match afforded us a teasing historical reflection with Mr Cromwell, in the manner of his illustrious namesake, presiding as Lord Protector. But conspiracies there were none, for a divided band of admirals and major-generals seated in the stand, together with the Royalists on the pitch, were totally absorbed in the fortunes and fluctuations of a private battle.

Fair play prevailed and though both sides made the usual crop of mistakes, the heavy guns were unusually silent. With the wind at the Army's backs, Lovegrove was first to tee up the ball and aim for goal. But he was both short and wide before succeeding after a half-hour with a straight kick from 30 metres out after the Navy had been pulled up at a ruck.

Thereabouts, the Navy's backs ran with verve in a counter-attack but at the halfway mark the Army turned round sitting uneasily, let it be said, on their three points. Quite clearly the initiative belonged now to the Navy, and though the Army showed commendable resilience, victory for them gradually slipped from the horizon.

After five minutes in the second half, Tomlin brought the Navy alongside with three points from a simple penalty goal. Shortly, the Navy ran in their try and, born of a concerted thrust, it was no more than they deserved. Hughes, Beatson, Lane, Price and Penfold laid the foundation and, winning the ball from a ruck, a movement to the right with Fabian in the line sent Harker away to outflank the Army's defence.

ROYAL NAVY: Lt G. Fabian; Surgeon-Lt (D) J. Harker, LPT P. Tomlin, Lt J. Blackett, LPT R. Penfold; MEML G. Price, WEA C. Youldon; POPT W. Davies, AB (S) S. M. R. Joy, Midshipman L. Watson, MEA (P) M. Lane, CMEM A. Payne, Lt R. M. S. Hughes (captain), CWEM (O) A. Beatson, AEMN (M) T. Kelly (rep. POPT R. Aindow).

THE ARMY: Lt P. Warfield; Cpl K. A Hearne, Cpl P. Lytollis, Sgt S. Jackson, Signalman H. Glean; Cpl G. Lovegrove, Sgt Instr G. Davies; Sgt T. Tarr, Cpl H. Elliam, Craftsman S. Titterington, Major M. Bowles (captain), Capt J. Campbell-Lamerton, Cpl G. Williams, Cpl C. Christopher, Lt C. Richardson.

Referee: C. G. Cromwell (Gloucestershire).

Rugby League

Warrington's juggernaut rumbles on regardless

By Keith Macklin

The juggernaut progress of Warrington, rolling aside all opposition in cup and league, yesterday took them to the top of the championship table, sponsored by Slalom Lager, and pushed Oldham further towards the second division. It was not a good day for the clubs chasing Warrington and trying to prevent the threatened grand slam from the Wilderspool side. Hull Kingston Rovers and Bradford Northern lost, Wakefield Trinity drew at home to Widnes, and only Castleford came up with a victory, at Barrow.

Warrington scored three tries in the 20 minutes before half-time in their 22—2 win at Oldham, and from that point onwards Oldham were in the Warrington stranglehold. Mike Kelly, Ford, Duane and Eccles scored tries for Warrington and Hesford kicked five goals.

Bradford Northern will blame poor defence and poor goalkicking for their defeat at Leigh. Northern could only kick one goal to add to their four tries from Gant (two), David Redfearn and Ferres. Leigh, however, scored four tries to which the brilliant Woods, who scored two of them, added three goals and provided the margin of victory.

Wakefield Trinity, who were the overnight leaders, scrambled a point against Widnes in a 10—10 draw. The try which saved Trinity was scored by the substitute forward Kelly 10 minutes from the end, Diamond's goal bringing the sides level. Juliff scored the other Wakefield try, while George made two touchdowns for Widnes and Burke kicked two goals.

Another big Hull crowd of 10,485 saw Hull stumble to a shock home defeat against a Workington Town team threatened with relegation. Workington, who previously had not won away from home for 12 months, grabbed victory in the last seconds when their scrum half Todd scored a try and Hopkins kicked the goal.

Hull Kingston Rovers still cannot beat the hoodoo which has prevented them winning at St Helens for nearly 60 years. Rovers led 4—0 at half time with a try from Smith and a dropped goal from Price, but constant second half pressure by St Helens brought tries from Arkwright and Parkes, and two goals and a dropped goal from Griffiths.

FIRST DIVISION: Barrow 5, Castleford 28; Halifax 13, Featherstone Rovers 5; Hull 13, Workington Town 15; Leigh 18, Bradford Northern 14; Oldham 2, Warrington 22; St Helens 17, Hull KR 5; Wakefield Trinity 10, Widnes 10.

SECOND DIVISION: Dewsbury 6, Hunslet 17; Doncaster 8, Blackpool Borough 0; Fulham 11, Keighley 9; Huyton 7, Batley 8; Swinton 17, Bramley 8; Whitehaven 0, Huddersfield 2; Wigan 19, Rochdale Hornets 9.

Rowing

Nightmare on the way to the banks for Oxford

By Jim Railton

Oxford University, in their first competitive race of the season, suffered multiple failure on Saturday in the Reading Head of the River race. First of all they lost their fin, then their rudder; left behind the chance of a record in fast conditions and the title, which was there for the taking.

For Oxford's coxswain, Susan Brown, in her racing debut with the Boat Race crew, it was a nightmare. When the rudder went and the racing shell was out of control, she veered into both banks. Oxford were offered the chance of racing over the course later to record a time, but it would not have counted in the race result. Ankle-deep in mud after their series of disasters, Oxford elected to call it a day.

Oxford at least reaped some reward with their reserve crew, Isis, finishing second overall; the Oxford University Women's Boat Club winning the women's pennant by nine seconds and 15 positions over Cambridge, and the Oxford men's lightweight eight—despite not looking impressive—finishing ninth overall. But Reading at least made Oxford's Boat Race crew pause to consider the need to reach Mortlake on April 4 before thinking of celebrating their sixth successive Boat Race victory.

The Leander second crew were the Reading victors on Saturday. Leander's first eight, apparently confused "by conflicting advice of marshal's" set off minutes before the field as Head crew, and as a consequence raced in a vacuum. They were not at their best racing ghost crews, but then, in training, the Leander second eight were claiming that they were faster than the first choice crew. The Leander reserves had eight seconds over their first eight, which was back in third.

St Edward's School, proved they are in the ascendancy, taking not only the senior B pennant and schools' title, but also the junior 16s and 15s titles, although Radley, the holders of the Bourne Cup (for the fastest school crew) were only two seconds behind.

Cambridge University over the weekend were "hosted" by the British lightweight eight. With honours more or less even on Saturday, the weekend finished with disputes, warfare and a £100 order for a new oar. Yesterday's exercise deserves deeper analysis tomorrow, but Cambridge cannot be too displeased over their second Tideway visit.

RESULTS: Reading Head of the River: 1, Leander II 12 min 54 secs; 2, Isis II 12:57; 3, Leander I 13:02; 4, Thames Tradesmen 13:26; 5, St Edward's 13:27; 6, Radley 13:29; 7, [illegible] Henley and Durham University, 13:31; 9, Oxford University lightweight 13:53; 10, Newcastle University 13:54.

Hockey

Players of the future rule the roost in quarter-final

By Sydney Friskin

Southgate 1, St. Albans 0

Southgate qualified for the semi-final round of the National Club Hockey championship, sponsored by Rank Xerox, after beating St. Albans in an exciting match at Waterfall Road yesterday. The winners will meet Olton and West Warwickshire at Guildford on April 4.

The heavy pitch began to deteriorate, making it difficult for the players, but there emerged the comforting thought that the match was dominated by England's players of the future.

Simon Swerling from the Under-21 squad, who played centre-forward for St. Albans, might be leading the England attack in years to come. His father Graham once played left-back for Hertfordshire and he was there yesterday to see his son just miss the mark early in the first half. It was Swerling who scored for St Albans when they beat Southgate 1—0 in the London match on January 3.

Paternal influence was further enhanced by the presence of the father of Stephen Batchelor, another member of the England Under-21 squad who played on the left wing for Southgate. He had a couple of good runs in the first half but was badly neglected in the second.

Southgate dominated the first half, in which they scored the winning goal, but lost control of midfield in the second. In consequence, St Albans had almost complete command of this period and might well have saved the day but for some inspired play by Wallace and Craig in Southgate's defence.

Driver and Kerly, two more players from the England Under-21 squad, were instrumental in putting Southgate ahead in the eighteenth minute. Brookeman did the groundwork and after Hurst had saved from Driver, Kerly scored from the rebound. Kerly has now come into the England senior squad and awaits his first cap against Poland on March 18.

Despite the second half dominance of St Albans it was only in the last few minutes that they came close to an equalizer, Bowskill's shot from a pass by Swerling being saved on the line by Craig. In the closing minutes Southgate had a chance to add to their score when Driver sent Kerly through but Kerly hit the outside of the boards.

SOUTHGATE: D. J. Owen; J. L. Duthie, M. Spray, D. Craig, A. J. Wallace, S. Kerly, I. Driver, R. H. Brookeman, S. Imtiaz (sub. D. Thomas), A. McGinn (capt), S. Batchelor.

ST ALBANS: J. A. Hurst; C. Eaton (capt), N. Walkey (sub. A. Bowskill), A. Halliday, R. Ashby, S. Port, G. Hayward, I. Akroyd, P. Hazell, S. Swerling, R. Mobbs.

Umpires: C. McL. Todd and G. A. Little (Northern Counties).

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-final round: Gloucester City 0, Neston 3.

The bitter battle of nerves over pay restraint

The pickets outside Downing Street this morning are a painfully public index of the Government's failure to persuade its own employees of the necessity of pay restraint. Ministerial pleas for "realism" over wage rises have gone unheeded, and the conflict is now in the open.

Some key settlements and claims in the current pay round

Number	Group	State of negotiations
225,000	Coalminers	13% ten-month deal
57,000	Ford car workers	9.5% settlement
1,000,000	Local government manuals	7.5% agreement
2,500,000	Engineering workers	8.2% on basic rates
30,000	Firemen	18.8% "comparability" deal
250,000	NHS manuals	6% rejected
530,000	Civil servants	7% rejected; strikes starting
32,000	Water workers	13% offer; acceptance recommended
96,000	Power workers	11% rejected
70,000	Steel workers	6-month freeze then 7%
29,000	Merchant seamen	12% accepted; arbitration on overtime
50,000	British Airways workers	Three-month freeze, then 8 per cent offer
750,000	Building workers	20% plus shorter work week claimed
200,000	Clearing Bank staff	8.5% rejected, action planned

Coming so soon after last month's patent surrender to the miners over pit closures and jobs, the confrontation over civil service pay presents the Cabinet with another full-blown crisis of credibility, and it is hard to see how a face-saving compromise can be salvaged from the current impasse.

Both sides are playing for high stakes. The Government is hazarding its whole policy of cash limits and its authority as an employer, while the unions are gambling on their ability to disrupt the flow of tax revenue to the Treasury so close to Sir Geoffrey Howe's Budget.

By going for the nation's financial jugular, rather than services to the public, the unions calculate that ministers will have to come back to the bargaining table quickly. But in the aftermath of the dramatic climbdown on cash limits for the coal industry, the Cabinet is scarely in a position to concede another defeat at the hands of public sector unions only half-way through the pay round.

Ministers have secured some useful bridgeheads in the 7½ per cent settlements for local government manual workers and teachers, though even these agreements probably owe more to very real fears of unemployment than to the smack of firm government.

Elsewhere, union negotiators remain confident of their ability to drive their way through the single-figure wage guidelines. The miners reluctantly accepted 13 per cent, while the water workers appear even more grudging about taking a similar package. The power workers have rejected 11 per cent, and the gas men expect to do considerably better than the last offer of 10 per cent.

These public sector developments are taking place as private industry reels from crisis to crisis and pay deals are "firmly into single figures" according to the CBI. From 16 per cent last summer, the level of settlements tumbled to 8 or 9 per cent in the new year and is still falling. Indeed, some West Midlands firms are reporting zero-increase agreements, and nearly half the companies reporting to the CBI cite the risk of redundancies as the main cause of shopfloor moderation.

However, the fear of unemployment has evidently not had as much impact in the public sector as it has in private industry. It was a potent factor in the local government negotiations and in areas such as British Steel, British Leyland and British Airways where state enterprise has to compete in a free market place. But in the gas, water and electricity monopolies, in the traditionally militant mines and elsewhere the same anxieties have not been generated.

In this context, it is interesting to note that a comprehensive brief on their dispute prepared by the civil service unions provides a question-and-answer rebuttal of likely criticisms of their strike campaign. Not one of the 15 model questions asks: "Won't a higher settlement than the 7 per cent on offer mean fewer jobs?"

Of course, the civil service has shed some 70,000 jobs since the Conservatives took office. But most of these have gone via the relatively painless route of natural wastage and non-replacement.

And if the civil services unions do not fear unemployment, nor are they greatly anxious about the risk of service personnel taking over their jobs during the dispute.

These considerations are already well known to ministers, whose chief response is likely to be a "big stick" policy of mass suspensions and reprisals against groups of staff who refuse to do the work of strikers. The unknown quantity in the forthcoming guerrilla war is how long the unions' nerve will hold out.

This is the first time that all nine civil service unions have united in a common claim and common industrial action that cuts across occupational and status boundaries. And the more links there are in the chain, the greater the likelihood that one or more will give.

One possible solution already being aired privately by the Civil Service Department is an inquiry into what should take the place of the Pay Research Unit (PRU), the comparability fact-finding body whose work has been unceremoniously suspended. Its reports, which form the basis of collective bargaining for civil servants, have been suppressed and the sense of grievance in the service has been fed more by this act than by the modesty of Lord Soames's 7 per cent offer. It smacks of rejecting the umpires decision.

But the Government is deeply suspicious of the whole mechanism of comparability between public and private employment, and having scrapped the Clegg commission now wants to shift to a more easily-managed system for assessing the worth of its own employees.

The trouble with PRU is that it has traditionally sought to make good the gap between salaries in public employment and best practice in large, roughly analogous private sector firms; whereas for Conservatives the reality of the world outside Whitehall is a jungle ranging from back-street rogue outfits to the relatively secure environment of blue-chip private enterprise.

Over the 25 years that the system has operated, the civil service unions have honed the statistical reports of the PRU into a formidable bargaining weapon. In effect, a government-financed research body has been providing the unions with bullets to fire back at the Cabinet, and perhaps it was too good to last.

But in their keenness to be seen to be standing firm when all around in the public sector are giving in, ministers have failed to identify the fundamental sense of grievance created by the virtually overnight abolition of the "fair comparison system".

Taking away PRU without having something plausible to put in its place now looks like a serious error of industrial relations judgment. Now they have pushed the moderates into an alliance with the militants, and the consequences are standing outside their offices with placards in their hands.

Paul Routledge
Labour Editor


Civil service strike operations room: little fear of redundancies.

Eric Heffer

What Britain should do abou El Salvador

According to a journalist friend who went to Washington with the Thatcher press entourage, the *Prime Minister did a good* job in restraining President Reagan and his colleagues concerning El Salvador. If this were true, we should all be happy, but surely her "success" was minimal, in the sense that although she may have urged President Reagan not to proceed with any immediate plans to blockade Cuba, and despite Lord Carrington's less than enthusiastic acceptance of United States policy in El Salvador, she did not express any opposition to what the United States is doing in El Salvador and publicly gave it her blessing.

Immediately before Mrs Thatcher's visit to Washington, the United States Government worked hard to win support for its policy in El Salvador, sending special envoys to Europe who paid particular attention to the Labour Party and its allies in the Socialist International.

At a meeting arranged at the House of Commons between some members of the international sub-committee of the Labour Party's National Executive Committee and Herman Cohen, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the United States Government, efforts were made by Mr Cohen to convince us that the guerrilla fighting in El Salvador against government and right-wing forces was part of a communist plot and that arms were reaching the guerrillas through Cuba and Nicaragua on a large scale. We were told that there were documents to prove this, although no copies of these were to hand.

Stephen Webre, an American writer in the epilogue of his book, *Jose Napoleon Duarte and the Christian Democratic Party in Salvador Politics* 1960-72 says: "Political expectations, particularly in certain areas, had been raised to such a point that they could not readily be deflated without serious cost, and the blatant employment of legal and extra-legal electoral controls in 1972 had contributed to the alientation of the opposition and severely damaged the prestige of the democratic solution . . . The events of the 1970s would encourage not only the growth of leftist guerrilla movements, but also right-wing paramilitary organizations and El Salvador would experience in the 1970s the sort of political warfare—clandestine armies of the ideological extremes attacking visible enemies of the centre such as the Church, the Government and the opposition parties—that Guatemala had suffered in the 1960s."

At the time certain right-wing forces were campaigning for "sanitation" against "communists" wherever they might be—in the Supreme Court, the Legislative Assembly, government ministries and even the clergy.

It is obvious that suppression and manipulation of democratic rights led to the rise of young leftist guerrilla forces which in turn intensified the growth of right-wing paramilitary groups resulting in bloodshed and violence affecting thousands of innocent people.

At such times surely even right-wing democratic Governments should give support and not hostility to those democratic forces which having failed to find a peaceful solution have been forced to take up arms against their oppressors. The figleaf for present American policy is the fact that El Salvador's President is Jose Napoleon Duarte whose Government is described as being centre-right refo and who in the past ha a charismatic Christian I cratic leader with a reaso record on the questio democratic rights.

At one time when ning for President his presidential candidate Guillermo Manuel Ungo w today both leader of the D cratic Revolutionary Front M.N.R, a democratic soc party affiliated to the Soc International and who resi from the Government on uary 2, 1980, and in doin clearly showed the und cratic nature of the reg Duarte, who recently arre some far right militarist nevertheless President because of the goodwill support of the ruling mili junta.

On a recent visit to Bri Mgr Delgado, renow for his right-wing views therefore not in sympathy most of his fellow-Salvad priests, tried to convinc meeting of Labour MPs the present Salvadorian Gov ment had nationalized banks, had a programme other reforms and were ca ing out land reform or massive scale.

If that Government is progressive why are the de cratic forces of Ungo's M.N nor supporting it, and why Ronald Reagan giving aid Government which is said be practising policies wh are an anathema to him?

In a recent pamphlet, *Church in Central Americ Faith, Hope and Love in Suffering Church*, Cesar Je a Guatemalan Jesuit, writing the murdered Archbish Romero said, "Preaching good news of the Kingdom the poor, Mgr Romero achiev a revival of Church life and unprecedented unity amon the majority of pasto workers, priests, nuns, l preachers, catechists and so Under his leadership, t church as a whole gained inf ence and credibility in societ

He further said, "The Chur has become the advocate of t poor. . . . He has evangeli all men according to the different situations: giving ho to the poor, revitalising popul religiosity, guiding those Chr tians who are more involv politically, calling those power, who oppress the poo to conversion. The Church h denounced with freedom, for tude and persistence the soci sins of the country and h consistently stressed the nee for new social and politic structures. . . . Under the leade ship of Mgr Romero the Churc adopted a social position whic corresponded to the preferen tial option for the poor." Fo that, and it should never b forgotten, Archbishop Romero was assassinated.

Daily, the situation become increasingly more perilous an if Mrs Thatcher really wants t make a serious contribution t peace and is truly concerne about democracy and freedom she should say to Presider Reagan, publicly—loud an clear—stop giving arms to th El Salvadoran Junta, suppor the call of the Swedish Foreig Minister, Mr Ola Ullsten fo negotiations and heed the r cent warnings of Archbisho Quinn of San Francisco of th grave dangers in the Unite States becoming more involve with the Salvadoran Junta.

She should also ask th United States to withdraw it military advisers immediatel and support all efforts to en the violence and establish de mocracy and human rights i El Salvador.

The author is Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton.

Inflation: can the patient survive?

We write with some desperation about the present and prospective economic crisis in Britain. Words we used 18 months ago, and which were thought hysterical at the time, have now become the common currency of political and economic commentary.

There is nothing inevitable about what is going on. The slump which is rapidly destroying British industry is the result of the tightness of the Government's fiscal and monetary policies and of the absurdly high exchange rate brought about by these policies. Though the inflationary disease is being contained, the patient is being rapidly killed off.

The world recession cannot be blamed for what is happening Britain's export markets grew in volume by 6 per cent in each of the last two years. And North Sea oil has insulated us from world inflation.

Britain's oil wealth has required some structural adjustment of the pattern of our trade, implying a small reduction in the rate of growth of our manufacturing industry. But it could not conceivably justify an absolute decline in our manufacturing output—let alone the 15 per cent contraction which has occurred in the past year.

Another major fallacy going the rounds is that the Government has made private industry bear too much of the burden of its fight against inflation by failing to make sufficient cuts in public expenditure. There is only one way in which private industry can now be rescued and that is by a sustained increase in sales and profits. Further cuts in public expenditure, so far from relieving British industry, will make its sales prospects even worse. A cut in interest rates may help, but this does not require further cuts in public expenditure.

After the farcical experience of monetary targetry during the past year no-one can any longer say, without looking ridiculous, that lower interest rates necessarily increase the money supply or, if they did, that this would matter.

Why hasn't the slump caused more serious and more general concern and indignation? There is one clear reason which is directly related to strategic mismanagement by both the present Government and the last one. We have been consuming more without producing more. Since 1976 industrial production has fallen by over 10 per cent and total domestic output, excluding the North Sea, is if anything lower than it was five years ago. Yet personal consumption in total has grown by at least 10 per cent. Consumption and take-home pay have even gone on rising through the period of industrial collapse since the end of 1979.

The paradox is partly resolved by the fact that oil production and improving terms of trade (pushed up by the exchange rate) have raised our national income by 6 or 7 per cent. To this extent, spending could rise without any growth at all in our non-oil production.

The other point is that within the total national income there has been a big shift in favour of the personal sector at the expense of companies and government finances. Many factors have contributed to this—high interest rates, the squeeze on export profit margins and on capacity utilization, the rising cost of social security. The result has been to sustain growth of private consumption at the expense of a catastrophic fall in company profits, public investment and now private investment as well. North Sea oil has been misused with a vengeance and our productive base has been badly damaged.

The present position is unsustainable. Apart from the fact that North Sea oil has nearly reached its peak, the exchange rate has been so high for so long that export sales are bound to fall substantially over the next two years (as surveys by the Confederation of British Industry indicate).

If fiscal and monetary policies are not substantially modified the slump will continue with no sustained recovery at any stage.

Alternatively, if policies are relaxed sufficiently to halt the rise in unemployment, a huge fall in the exchange rate will occur. We estimate that a "dash for growth" type of recovery at anything like the present exchange rate would after two years generate a balance of payments deficit of £10,000 million or more.

To put the same point another way, a devaluation of around 40 per cent would now be needed to preserve balance of payments equilibrium and prevent unemployment rising at the same time. And any large fall in sterling would within a few months bring inflation back to 20 per cent and more, with rising prices cutting into real incomes.

This underlying dilemma of economic policy has worsened to the extent that any significant relaxation of fiscal and monetary policy now, particularly if the Government is known to desire some fall in the exchange rate, is likely to generate a heavy, prolonged and uncontrolable run on sterling with disastrous consequences for inflation long before there is any sign of recovery from the slump.

Our view is that fiscal and monetary policy should be relaxed and that some devaluation of sterling is essential if British goods are ever to compete successfully in home and overseas markets. But if our analysis is correct people may wonder whether there will ultimately be any alternative to the imposition of direct controls over foreign exchange transactions, imports and money incomes.

Francis Cripps and Wynne Godley

The growth of national income

	(per cent of national income) 1956-66	1966-76	1976-81
Sources of growth in national income:			
Industrial production	14.9	5.0	−5.0
Other domestic output	18.3	17.5	3.5
Overseas income, terms of trade and North Sea	0.8	−2.9	7.5
Increase in national income	34.0	19.6	6.0
Uses of growth in national income:			
Private consumption	19.5	12.8	6.7
Public services	3.6	6.2	0.9
Fixed investment	10.4	4.5	−2.3
Stockbuilding and current balance of payments	0.5	−3.8	0.7

Estimates for 1981 from CEPG model; historical data from national accounts.

Being British in a trouble spot

The good news from San Salvador is that the bar at the British Club has a two-month reserve supply of liquor and it's members' upper lips are so stiff they could open bottles of tonic water with them.

The bad news is that the tonic water is not Schweppes: El Salvador's violent political troubles have caused a curtailment of supplies. Moreover, membership of the club is dwindling as the weaker brethren pack up and leave.

The billiards and snooker competitions had to be cancelled because, with too few contestants, they had become—"a farce". The cricket team cannot find 11 players. The "happy hours" at the bar on Friday evenings were abolished because of the curfew.

The British Club is a modest, heavily mortgaged house in a side street off the broad Paseo Escalon in the western part of the city, commanding a view of Hardee's Hamburger House.

On the right of the entrance is a dining room with three small tables, on the left pictures of the Queen and Prince Philip taken a dozen or more years ago. Facing that is a list of the club's past presidents.

One of them, Henry Ellison, accompanied me in. He was the club's president in 1964 and now, at 75, it's oldest member. "All the others have left except me", he mused, surveying the list with a sigh.

Peter Caswell, the vice-president and treasurer, confirmed that the rolls were dwindling alarmingly, down now to less than 100. Two years ago they were double that and there was talk of limiting new members.

Caswell himself was to join the throng of the departing a few days after my visit. The insurance company he works for was posting him to Panama.

The notice board told much of the story. A copy of "paper clip", the club's duplicated news sheet, dated October, was pinned up. "It's not come out recently because nobody has been able to do it," Mr Ellison explained.

"For sale," read a notice, "Sears frig, patio furniture, baby car seat," and another: "Home wanted for 3-year-old cocker spaniel, affectionate and good with children," and again: "Maid with references seeks work for March." All tieing up the loose ends of departure.

I continued the tour. The bar, the club's social centre, is curved, with jokey crests fixed to a panel above. A large fan whirrs comfortingly overhead. *The Times* and *The Daily Telegraph*, none newer than two weeks old, lay on the table.

The Library holds bound volumes of *Punch*, for a good British giggle, as well as a well-thumbed billiards and snooker rule book. On the shelves are trophies for table tennis, football and darts.

The darts board is in the next room, near the piano. "We used to have concerts but they're in abeyance now", said Mr Ellison. The billiard room, with a rude poster on the wall, is beyond and the swimming pool beyond that.

I was there on the day of the annual general meeting, held on a Saturday afternoon because of the curfew. Chairs had been drawn up in the piano and darts room and a table covered with red, white and blue cloth.

Carol Thearle, head of science at the British school here and the club's secretary, opened the meeting after it was decided that the 12 members and five wives present constituted a quorum. She listed the entertainments members had managed to enjoy despite the trouble; the curry night, the chili con carne country and western night, the Queen's birthday party, the hallowe'en barbeque and the rest.

Caswell gave the treasurer's report. "We are still solvent", he declared, though owing money for the premises. He chastised members for not being generous enough with the Christmas box for staff who had reported for work every evening, through the worst of the crisis.

Then came election for the committee in which almost every person who could be cajoled into standing was successful. The rule is that at least four of the committee of nine must be a British or Commonwealth citizen—a requirement that gets harder to fulfil year by year.

Less than a third of the members are British. The rest are people the British like to drink with—the Americans and better class Salvadoreans.

One hardship only indirectly to do with the political troubles and which caused great anguish was the question of credit at the bar. One of the valued benefits of club membership, from Pall Mall to Paseo Escalon, is that you can get drinks and not pay for them until next month or later.

Because of the club's cash flow problem, this privilege is being abolished here. Members must put up bonds in advance. There were pained looks but in the end they absorbed the blow with the stoicism of a people accustomed to grousing.

During the meeting, emergency supplies of beer were being ferried from the bar. After it, they all gathered there to fill up and talk about how they were surviving the constant violence and curfew. They were being—what else—very British about it.

"It becomes a way of life," said Carol Thearle. "You learn to look in your rear view mirror when you're driving."

Roger Brumby, another teacher at the British school spoke of another deprivation. "A group of us used to climb the volcanos here", he said. "We stopped 15 months ago." Wise, for the volcanos are where the left-wing guerrillas have some of their camps.

An enviable quality of expatriates anywhere is their ability to convince themselves that, whatever local difficulties there are, things are better than in their homeland, which has been accelerating downhill since . . . well, since they left.

"Who's on strike there?" Chortled Danny Franklin, a committee member believing I was hot from Britain. I could not tell him and forebore to make the point that, despite our industrial relations difficulties, we did not share El Salvador's disconcerting tradition of slaughtering our political opponents nightly.

Dennis Martin, who runs a school of commercial English and is married to the sister of the deputy head of the National Guard, said: "I'm right-wing, always have been", and went on to tell me of a letter he had recently written to a relative in England: "I'm sitting on my balcony watching the volcano and eating melon and payaya and the temperature is 75°. How is London in February?"

Many members complained that reporters who had visited the club previously had written articles giving the impression that the British community was unconcerned about El Salvador's difficulties, spending their time sitting round the pool drinking gin and sniffing the tropical flowers..." ("If he can find any tropical flowers round our pool..." stormed one man.)

I do not want to be accused of giving the same impression beacause it is false. The British here are showing courage and concern for their temporarily adopted country.

This is particularly true of the teachers at the British school, who have a sense of mission, believing they're doing something worthwhile in instilling their values into the 630 pupils, mostly sons and daughters of wealthy Salvadoreans. "I think things will move more quickly here if I can touch people who will have the power," he said.

he beleaguered Britons do not have even an embassy to protect them anymore. It was close soon after the kidnapping of two British bankers in 1978 and now stands locked and barred, weeds growing from its window boxes.

Without an embassy, without Schweppes, they console themselves with the weather and the volcanos. Not to mention the well-stocked reserve of spirits, in both senses of the word.

Michael Leapman

Cricket

Dawdling Gower pays price of meeting an uninhibited King

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Bridgetown, March 8

Robin Jackman soon made an impact here today—on the field this time rather than off it. Coming on when Haynes and Greenidge, opening for Barbados, were in full cry, he removed Haynes and in partnership with Emburey gave England's bowling a much tighter look than when Botham and Stevenson had been using the new ball. At close of play Barbados were 133 for three in reply to England's 298.

Until Jackman and Emburey bowled together England had been struggling—with bat as well as ball. There is just enough pace in the pitch—for anyone of genuine pace. That is—to suggest that England's batsmen may need all the protection they can find in the Test here on Friday. Their batsmen have mostly taken to wearing fore-arm guards, right handers on the left arm, left handers on the right, being able to expect nothing from the umpires by way of a realistic interpretation of the law covering fast, short-pitched bowling.

Against Botham and Stevenson, of nothing like the same pace as Clarke, Daniel and Marshall, Greenidge played some dazzling strokes while opening the Barbados innings, but Jackman, once he had picked up his line, had Haynes caught at the wicket, driving at him. Emburey bowled beautifully having George Reifer dropped at slip and Greenidge and Trotman then caught there by Botham.

In the hour before tea, Barbados scored 67 without loss: in the two hours afterwards they made another 66 while losing Haynes, Greenidge and Trotman.

Barbados are playing three fast bowlers rather than their customary four (Garner is resting and Alleyne unfit) but even with Padmore, the off-spinner, bowling more overs than any of them, the islands over-rate was still miserably slow and the amount of short stuff unattractively high. With another Test match coming up, it was ominous to see so many bouncers passing unchecked. From Clarke and Marshall there were usually two an over, often three.

For four-and-a-half hours yesterday, Boycott ducked and weaved and searched around for scoring chances. This was his sixth first-class innings of the tour and the fifth time he has reached 70 without going on to his hundred. He puts it down to a lack of cricket in which to get into the way of playing a long innings. Also, of course, the constant wear of facing fast bowling takes its toll.

The best of the England batting came when Boycott and Gower were together and before Gower allowed himself to be unhappily run out. Having gone down the pitch and hit Padmore hard and straight to King at deep mid-off, Gower rather dawdled around, knowing it to have been the last ball of the over. For want of anything better to do King, an uninhibited creature, hurled the ball back to the wicketkeeper and turned away, it occurring no more to him than to Gower that anything might come of it.

With Murray taking off the bails before the umpire had called over or Gower had bothered to regain his ground, Gower had to be given out, Boycott's pleading on Gower's behalf, on the grounds that the ball was dead, was unavailing.

Gatting promised well for half an hour; Butcher lived chancily for two hours and a quarter before being marvellously caught on the long-on boundary. Colin Milburn, mouth watering, felt that Padmore "got away with murder": yet it was in trying to hit him back over his head that Boycott and then Butcher were out.

This morning, in two hours, England added 67 runs from 29 overs. Willey, dropped twice at slip off Marshall, making 41 of them. Botham, determined this time not to get himself out, took nearly three hours to get 40. He had recovered from a nasty knock in the box from Clarke and was promising something worth seeing when he was caught at the wicket.

After lunch, with bouncers still abounding, Willey was caught at the wicket off Clarke, who bowled Stevenson in the same over. Jackman, generously enough received, had a nasty little misunderstanding with Bairstow, which led to Bairstow being run out. When Jackman was bowled, England's innings had lasted for eight hours 50 minutes—or 132.4 overs, 36.4 of them bowled off a short, quick run by Padmore. Not long ago, in the same length of time, Barbados would have expected to bowl perhaps 180 overs, worth a total in excess of 400, even at England's scoring rate. So changes the game for the worse.

ENGLAND: First Innings

G. A. Gooch, b Clarke	18
G. Boycott, c Trotman, b Padmore	77
M. W. Gatting, c Murray, b Marshall	11
D. I. Gower, run out	18
R. O. Butcher, c Greenidge, b Padmore	45
*I. T. Botham, c Murray, b Padmore	40
P. Willey, c Murray, b Clarke	41
†D. L. Bairstow, run out	22
G. B. Stevenson, b Clarke	[illegible]
R. D. Jackman, b Padmore	[illegible]
J. Emburey, not out	0
Extras (b 2, l-b 2, n-b 7)	11
Total	298

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—24, 2—47, 3—92, 4—168, 5—179, 6—252, 7—282, 8—285, 9—294, 10—298.

BOWLING: Clarke, 35—[illegible]—67—3; Daniel, 27—[illegible]—[illegible]—0; Marshall 19—[illegible]—32—1; King, 15—2—26—0, Padmore, 36 4—10—71—4.

BARBADOS First Innings

C. G. Greenidge, c Botham, b Emburey	45
D. L. Haynes, c Bairstow, b Jackman	31
G. Reifer, not	25
E. Trotman, c Botham, b Emburey	10
C. King, not out	3
Extras (l-b 3, w 1, n-b 2)	6
Total (3 wkts)	133

D. A. Murray, L. Reifer, M. D. Marshall, *A. L. Padmore, S. T. Clarke, W. W. Daniel to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—83, 2—100, 3—123.

BOWLING: Botham, 7—2—30—0; Stevenson, 9—1—46—0; Emburey, 16—[illegible]—21—2; Jackman, 9—[illegible]—[illegible]—1, Willey, 3—0—[illegible]—0.

Umpires: S. Parris an D. Archer.

SCORES: India 174 for 2 (C. P. S. Chauhan 78, S. M. Gavaskar 55) v New Zealand.—Reuter.

Ice skating

Coming to terms with the world

From John Hennessy
Hartford, March 8

It is the morning after the tumultuous night before and the two charming young skaters from Nottingham still find it hard to come to terms with what they have achieved. Their eyes carry a hint of the triumph of having won the world ice-dance championship here last night, but their mood is still one of sweet bewilderment.

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean seemed different people from those who produced such histrionic changes of mood on the ice, according to the demands of the music, notably the haughty arrogance of the paso doble. "I don't feel any different from yesterday," Dean said. "There is almost a sense of anti-climax now it's all over."

Their accomplishment here hardly seemed possible when the season began. The rise from sixth place to first, even in the wake of the usual post-Olympic defections, is an astonishing advance, which may help to allay further the natural concern of some city ratepayers at the grant of £40,000 for the next three years to help to sustain their attempt on the Olympic gold medal at Sarajevo three years hence. So might the proud legend "City of Nottingham" shining from their track suits before the world's press last night.

They had been drawn to skate first of the five leading couples, a disadvantageous position as a general principle, but at least it spared the nerve-wracking wait in the dressing-rooms listening to the volleys of applause won by their opponents. On the other hand, the judges are prone to mark with caution to allow some leeway for any blockbuster that might follow.

One had one's fears about the strength of character of Miss Torvill and Dean, 23 and 22 respectively, who come from humble backgrounds and are not among nature's extroverts. In the event they were superb, responding magnificently to the highly-charged atmosphere created by a stadium crammed to the rafters with nearly 13,000. They were better even than at Innsbruck a month ago, when they won the European title in front of, comparatively speaking, a handful of onlookers.

"That victory," their trainer, Betty Callaway, says, "gave them more authority." It showed. This was ice-dance of the highest quality in the British tradition of the ballroom, a recognizably brilliant extension of the palais de danse's quickstep, tango, and rock 'n' roll, with an expressive speciality section thrown in. It was breathtaking stuff, courting disaster from one perilous moment to the next as their flashing blades came near to collision, so millimetre-close is their control.

The British couple had two serious challengers as a result of the compulsories: Irina Moiseyeva and Andrei Minenkov, former world champions for the Soviet Union, and Judy Blumberg and Michael Seifert, holders of the American title. The Russians gave a puzzling exhibition which seemed to have little to do with ice-dance, and were relegated from second place to third by Courtney Jones, of Britain, alone among the nine judges. The Russian judge was in an equally isolated position of putting his compatriots above the British couple.

The Americans suffered a demoralizing setback within half a minute when Seifert caught a heel and they fell, for no reason that he himself could offer. They do, and subsequently did, any number of daring manoeuvres and there was a cruel irony on his loss of concentration when absolutely no danger threatened. A fall in ice-dance is much more serious than in free skating, because, as Seifert himself said afterwards, "that's the name of the game". Their chance of any kind of medal was gone now, but they proceeded to give a performance that suggested what might have been.

The bronze medal in the end went to the dazzling second Russian couple, Natalia Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin. The second British couple, Karen Barber and Nicholas Slater, again skated with charm and vivacity to finish seventh, an advance of three places over last year, and Wendy Sessions and Stephen Williams took 11th place, a highly encouraging first appearance in this company.

The British victory was a special triumph for Mrs Callaway. After a decade of Russian domination she has won the world title on two successive occasions, with an Hungarian couple last year and now with a British. Had this victory come too soon, with Sarajevo in mind? "Yes," she said, "and we'll just have to work that much harder."

A postscript is demanded by Deborah Cottrill, second in Britain, sixth in Europe, and now fourth in the world after a superb free skating programme on Friday night, certainly her best yet. In the realm of artistic skating she ranked second only to Denise Biellmann, the enchanting Swiss with the spectacular two-handed, overhead catch-foot spin, but their three triple jumps fell far short of the seven of Elaine Zayak, the 15-year-old American champion. The imminent retirement of Miss Biellmann leaves us with the dispiriting prospect of a jumping machine succeeding to the world title. Where, oh where, is the message first broadcast by John Curry in 1976?

ICE DANCE: 1, J. Torvill and C. Dean (GB) 2.0pts; 2, I. Moiseyeva and A. Minenkov (USSR) 4.0; 3, N. Bestemianova and A. Bukin (USSR) 7.0; 4, J. Blumberg and M. Seibert (US) 7.0; 5, O. Voloshinskaya and A. Svinin (USSR) 11.0; 6, C. Fox and R. Dalley (US) 11.0; 7, K. Barber and N. Slater (GB) 14.0; 8, N. Herve and P. Bechu (France) 17.0; 9, J. Berankova and J. Bartua (Czechoslovakia) 17.0; 10, B. Goller and P. Klisch (WG) 20.0; 11, W. Sessions and S. Williams (GB) 22.0.

WOMENS' FINAL PLACINGS: 1, D. Biellmann (Switzerland) 4.2pts; 2, E. Zayak (US) 5.[illegible]; 3, C. Kristofics-Binder (Austria) 6.0; 4, D. Cottrill (GB) 8.4; 5, K. Witt (EG) 10.0; [illegible] K. Wegelius (Finland) 10.5; 7, P. Hill (US) 16.0; 8, C. Paul (EG) [illegible]; [illegible] K. Riediger (WG) 19.0; 10, T. Wainman (Canada) 19.6; 15, K. Wood (GB) 31.2.

Parents overjoyed: The parents of the new champions were delighted with their success. Mrs Betty Dean of Basford, Nottingham said: "Chris rang from America soon after the results were announced. He just could not believe it. I do not think it has sunk in for either of them yet." Mrs Betty Torvill, of Basford, said: "Jayne began skating at the age of nine with her classmates. Now she has achieved her lifelong ambition. We are very grateful to Nottingham City Council for sponsoring them."

Skiing

Phil Mahre keeps up pressure on Stenmark

Aspen, Colorado, March 8.—Victory for Phil Mahre, of the United States, in yesterday's men's giant slalom here maintained the suspense in the World Cup. However, Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, still needs only one more slalom win for his fourth World Cup.

Stenmark usually leaves his best until last, but he lost on yesterday's difficult course when he faded over the lower half of the second run. Mahre, trailing by 19 hundredths of a second after the first leg, overhauled the Swede with a faultless second run.

Stenmark had a faster intermediate time (1:05.32) to Mahre's 1:07.10) on the second leg, but then the effort of his first run appeared to take its toll and he lost control.

MEN'S GIANT SLALOM: 1, P. Mahre (US) [illegible]; 2, I. Stenmark (Sweden) [illegible]; 3, S. Mahre (US) [illegible]; 4, J. Gaspoz (Switzerland) [illegible]; 5, J.-L. Fournier (Switzerland) [illegible]; 6, A. Zhirov (USSR) [illegible].

WORLD CUP STANDINGS: 1, Stenmark 200pts; 2, P. Mahre 234; 3, P. Muller (Switzerland) [illegible]; 4, S. Mahre 12[illegible]; 5, A. Zhirov (USSR) [illegible]; equal 6, H. Weirather (Austria) 113; equal 6, B. Krizaj (Yugoslavia) 113.

WOMEN'S DOWNHILL: 1, E. Kirchler (Austria) [illegible]; 2, R. [illegible] (WG) [illegible]; 3, C. Nelson (US) [illegible]; 4, H. Flanders (US) [illegible]; 5, [illegible] (Austria) [illegible]; [illegible] D. de Agostini (Switzerland) [illegible].

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP STANDINGS: 1, M.-T. Nadig (Switzerland) 120pts; 2, de Agostini 117; 3, C. Proell (Austria) [illegible]; [illegible] T. Fjeldstad (Norway) [illegible]; [illegible] J. Soltysova (Czechoslovakia) [illegible] — Agence France-Presse and Reuter.

Gymnastics

Credit for Britain despite defeat against Russians

By a Special Correspondent

British gymnastics entered a new era when men from the Soviet Union arrived at Wembley arena to meet Great Britain for the first time as a team in the Hunt international on Saturday. Nobody expected a British victory, but when the Russians won by only 4.40 points, much surprise and admiration for Britain were expressed, and none was more vociferous than from the national coach, John Atkinson, who publicly declared before the match that he would settle for defeat by 15 points without a loss of national dignity.

It was true that the Soviet Union did not field their Olympic six, but in the team there were the European junior champion, Yuri Korolev, and several gymnasts destined for the world championships later this year.

The struggle started untidily with both teams falling badly from their tumbles in the floor exercises. For Britain, Eddie van Hoof came to the rescue with 9.10 for his prone to handstand move, Keith Langley was on 9.15 and Barry Winch scored 9.20. For the Russians, Korolev hit 9.60.

The Russians led Britain by a mere 0.70 of a mark after the first discipline, but snatched a further mark for pommels and another 1.50 for rings. The result was not in doubt, but Britain had the courage to fight back and they beat the Russians at vaulting by 0.3 of a mark with Winch scoring 9.3, Langley and van Hoof 9.35 each, and the Welsh champion, Andrew Morris, 9.30.

By comparison the women's match, running simultaneously against Canada, was a poor contest for Britain could only field one gymnast from the last world championships and Moscow Olympics.

The sole survivor, Mandy Gornall from Preston, showed class with nine for everything in her 37.05, but no other British girl could match her consistency. Cheryl Weatherstone, who commutes from Connecticut for a place in the British team, flew the Atlantic to come bottom with 7.75 for very poor beam work.

Britain's women lost to Canada in the Commonwealth Games in 1978 and their hopes for revenge at Wembley ended in defeat by 6.45 marks after losing on bars, beam and floor with vaulting as their only success.

MEN: Great Britain, 271.10, USSR, 275.50. Places: 1, Y. Korolev (USSR), 56.10; 3, S. Baranov (USSR), 55.85; equal 3, M. Grafov (USSR), 55.25; B. Winch (GB), 55.25; 5, K. Langley (GB), 54.65; 6, E. van Hoof (GB), 54.15.

WOMEN: Great Britain, 180.10, Canada, 186.55. Places: 1, E. Schlegel (Canada), 38.10; 2, S. Hawkn (Canada), 37.65; 3, B. Wittmeier (Canada), 37.30; 4, M. Gornall (GB), 37.05; 5, A. Boman (Canada), 36.75; 6, M. Goerman (Canada), 36.25.

Real tennis

Gradon comes up against a brick wall

By Roy McKelvie

John Ward, the third seeded player and a sticky customer to play, had a tussle with Michael Gradon in the amateur real tennis singles championship at Queen's Club yesterday. Ward won by 6—5, 6—4, 6—3, more by wearing down the loser than by any positive action.

Gradon, the best player to come out of Cambridge University for some years, has an attractive flowing style, holds the head of the racket high, gets down to cut his strokes and is mobile.

Gradon's versatility and skill began to show when Ward was leading 5—2 in the first set. To reach set point Ward laid a very short chase which Gradon beat with a force to the dedans and, outplaying his man, squared the set at 5—5.

Leading 4—1 in the second set, Gradon had points for 5—2 and 5—3 but began to lose steam. He had done a lot of running and, possibly through tiredness, began to miss chances. He recovered at the start of the third set but then faded as if he felt there was not much more he could do against a metaphorical brick wall.

FIRST ROUND: A. Kanwar beat D. M. F. Harvey 6—5, 6—5, 5—6, 2—6, 6—5. R. McKenzie beat C. M. Ohlson, 6—0, 6—1, 6—3; J. D. Ward beat A. Benson, 6—0, 6—0, 6—0; R. M. Gradon beat D. Newman, 6—2, 6—2, 6—0; P. G. Seabrook beat S. Somerville, 6—1, 6—0, 6—0. J. M. G. Walsh beat O. Jacoul, 6—1, 6—1, 6—0; J. A. R. Clench beat M. Railing, 6—2, 6—5, 6—1; W. A. Hollington beat R. L. O. Bridgeman, 6—1, 6—1, Rid D. Nation beat R. G. Paterson, 6—5, 6—5, 6—1.

SECOND ROUND: H. R. Angus beat Kanwar, 6—0, 6—1, 6—1; R. B. Bloomfield beat McKenzie, 6—5, 6—5, 6—5; Ward beat Gradon, 6—5, 6—4, 6—3; M. F. Dean beat Clench, 6—2, 6—2, 6—0; A. C. Lovell beat Nation, 6—0, 6—1, 6—1.

Motor rallying

Alen takes lead in drivers' championship

Estoril, March 8.—Markku Alen, of Finland, took the lead in the world championship by winning the Car Rally of Portugal for the fourth time here last night. Alen had taken the lead in his Fiat 131 Abarth when the early pacesetter, Hannu Mikkola, drove his Audi Quattro to a standstill on the third stage and Ari Vatanen crashed his Ford Escort. He finished more than nine minutes ahead of Henry Toivonen, the winner of last year's RAC Rally.

Alen gained a two-second lead over Toivonen, but when Toivonen went off the road after a navigational mishap, he opened up a comfortable margin. The victory gave Alen 24 points and a one-point lead over Toivonen in the world championship, which Alen previously won in 1975, 1977 and 1978.

Michèle Mouton, of France, at the wheel of the other works Audi Quattro, became the first woman to win a timed section in this rally, setting up the scratch time once on Friday and six times on Saturday, when Alen was driving cautiously to preserve his lead.

RESULTS: 1, M. Alen & I. Kivimaki (Finland), Fiat 131, 8hr 27min 36sec; 2, H. Toivonen (Finland) & F. Gallagher (GB), Talbot Lotus, 9min 10sec behind; 3, B. Waldegaard & R. Thorszelius (Sweden), Toyota, 17:21; 4, M. Mouton (France) & F. Pons (Italy), Audi Quattro, 25:31; 5, A. Pond & I. Grindrod (GB), Datsun 30:03; 6, Frequelin & J. Todt (France), Talbot Lotus, 49:51.

DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP: 1, Alen, 24 points; 2, Toivonen, 23; 3, Frequelin, 21; 4, A. Kullang (Sweden), H. Mikkola (Finland), J. Ragnotti (France), 20.

MANUFACTURERS' CHAMPIONSHIP: 1, Talbot, 34 pts; 2, Fiat, 26; 3, Opel, 25; 4, Renault, 18; 5, Toyota, Ford, 15.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	130	340	Good	Heavy	Fair	Föhn	0
Slush on lower slopes							
Avoriaz	180	240	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Rain	5
Heavy, slushy conditions							
Courmayeur	80	280	Good	Varied	Open	Cloud	3
Wet snow on lower slopes							
Klosters	115	220	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	-8
New snow on good base							
La Plagne	190	355	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Rain	5
Sudden thaw, wet snow							
Mürren	90	300	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Rain	4
Slush on lower slopes							
St Anton	110	470	Good	Good	Good	Cloud	6
High runs excellent							
Seefeld	110	160	Good	—	—	Cloud	7
Wet snow on lower slopes							
Tignes	165	255	Fair	Heavy	Fair	Rain	2
Slush on most slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from another source.



Profile of a royal look-alike

Italy, Germany, a world cruise, one's diary is so full

The telephone went early a couple of weeks ago: it was Jeanette Charles (the lady who makes a fortune out of being a lookalike, she is in fact in no uncertain way, the Queen's double). Ms Charles sounded impatient.

"Look I've been filming all week", she said with a great deal of irritability, "and I'm off to Italy to do a TV spectacular and I've not got much time . . . what can I do for you?" "I'm not sure". I replied sleepily, "you phoned me." "Oh yes, well I think someone from my management had seen your feature in the Express about Richard Todd, lovely man, and they suggested I call you to invite you down to have a look at my home and take some pictures of me and. . . ."

"Give me the address", I pretend to search for a pen. Jeanette gives me the address. It is a detached country house, second on the right past the war memorial, by the pub, now what's the name of the pub, you must know it John. . . ."

She complained about all these wretched reporters and press who never stop hounding her. One ghastly reporter, "cheeky beggar", had even expected her 19-year-old son to dress up in polo gear. "I ask you—I mean some people will stop at nothing. . . ."

What did she think of the Genuine Article who recently had strong words with the press corps, who stalked her and her family in the grounds at Sandringham? "Yes, indeed, dreadful isn't it. You see I'm a Royalist. I don't care for the way the Royal family is being treated. . . ."

Did she think about the consequences to the British Royal family since she specialized in TV commercials and programmes that would in all probability depict the Queen of England in bad light thereby capitalizing on someone who could not answer back. Hardly cricket?

"But I go as me: Jeanette Charles, when I'm abroad I do a lot of chat shows, not only in Italy but in France and Germany too; I'm me, not the Queen."

"But you do profess to be the Queen's lookalike and you concede, would you not, that since you dress up in all the regalia complete with tiara and blue sash, what's that the order of by the way?"

"The Garter I think. John I do think we can perhaps go into all this when we meet, I'll give you a ring when I get back next week."

The following week the phone went: It was the indomitable Ms Charles. Her diary it seemed was as full as ever but would I care to come next Wednesday?

Yes I could and how had she enjoyed Italy?

Wonderful but I had to remember that she was not the Queen. "I've got to fly to Germany fairly soon. I've got a booking pencilled in for next week, and then I've got this world cruise. . . ." Finally I am asked if I'm definitely coming next Wednesday which seems to be the one and only time that Ms Charles can fit me in.

She tells me that she is learning Italian and German. Show business can be a real bore at times and at every possible moment she brushes up her Italian.

Did she not feel that it might not be inconceivable for an Italian peasant, say, down in rural southern Italy when viewing the box genuinely to mistake her for the real Queen of England.

"Well let's talk about that next Wednesday!"

Wednesday arrives all too quickly. I can't face it. I panic. I get my secretary to phone Uglies Enterprises, just one of the agencies who represent Ms Charles. I listen entranced on the extension. "So sorry but Mr Oliver will have to cancel Jeanette Charles' kind invitation to pay her a visit today. . . ." "We have a lot of other lookalikes" comes back the dulcet tones of an Uglies booker. "We have a Queen Mum and, just in, a Lady Di."

"A Lady Diana?" I break in, the news of the engagement to Prince Charles has only just broken. Some enterprising lady has been very smart and very quick. "Yes, Mr Oliver (how does she know it's me?) She's a very lovely girl called Diana (wouldn't you know it) Goodman. Perhaps you would care to meet her, she's already been interviewed by NBC for the States and Thames which is due to go out on Monday."

"Really." "Yes, we're looking for a lookalike for Prince Charles now, and Prince Philip—we can turn a few people into new people."

I am at a loss for what to say while I try to discern whether there is any innuendo implied. But there is no stopping this girl. She wants to send me a catalogue, I think about giving her a false name. Where should she send it, she asks me. But then I realize I can hardly give her a false name since she knows who I am. How, I ask myself, is she so sure when everyone else around her and in her catalogue does not seem so sure who they are. I put down the phone.

"All the world is a comic strip.
And men and women merely
lookalikes in it."

Oh boy. I make for the bathroom and try not to look in the mirror. I mean you just never know these days.

In any event I decide that's it. At least I've been spared something. I certainly would in no circumstances now be paying a visit to Jeanette Charles: and as for Diana Goodman, if she was anything like the genuine article; well now there's a thought. . . ."

John Oliver



The not-the-Queen.

The right to rights inside the prison gates

A campaign starts today for prisoners' rights. It might at first seem just another bandwagon for those who think prisons should be more a bed of roses than a bed of nails. But the campaign is only indirectly concerned with conditions. Behind it is the belief that prisons should not be oases removed from the law and judicature of this country. When the prison gates close, it is held, a prisoner should not lose the protection of the law along with his freedom.

A private member's Bill is published by Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Wandsworth, Battersea South, with the aim, among other things, of making the Prison Act, 1952, and the Prison Rules under it enforcable by law.

Last year a prisoner who had been kept in a "special control unit" for troublemakers—now disbanded—tried unsuccessfully to sue the Home Office for false imprisonment. The judge found the Prison Rules had been breached but that the courts had no power to intervene: the rules were a matter for the Home Office. Critics saw the judgment as a licence for the Home Office to break the rules with impunity.

But in 1978 in a case brought against the Board of Visitors of Hull Prison by some prisoners backed by the National Council for Civil Liberties, the Court of Appeal held the Board must act according to the rules of natural justice. If it does not, the prisoner may apply to the courts for a judicial review.

"The rights of a citizen, however, circumscribed by a penal sentence or otherwise, must always be the concern of the courts unless their jurisd tion was clearly excluded some statutory provision Lord Justice Shaw said.

Other gains for prisone rights include the 1975 Eu pean Court of Human Rig ruling against the Governme for refusing a prisoner acce to a solicitor. And the Eu pean Commission of Hum Rights is expected shortly find the Government in brea of the human rights conventi for censoring prisoners' ma and for refusing to allow prisoner to marry. Home Offi rules have now been modifie on both issues.

But none of this is co solidated in British law an the Court of Appeal ruling o the Board of Visitors cas could at a future date be ove turned by the Lords. Th Prisoners' Rights Bill would no only make the Prison Rules e forcable by law but giv prisoners a right to know th Prison Rules; have legal advic in confidence; be represente at disciplinary hearings; kno their category (eg "A") an appeal against it; have greate freedom of correspondence an the right to vote.

It would also write into th same statute the protections in the Bill of Rights 1688 agains cruel and unusual punishmen and in the European Convention against torture, cruel or degrading treatment.

How much support it attracts depends on acceptance of the view that prisoners have not only privileges but also rights. But that in turn comes down to whether there should be a system within our system of justice which is a law unto itself.

Frances Gibb

View from Westminster

Monetary policy under fire

Whether the Select Committee Report on Monetary Policy has any immediate impact on policy now depends on the Cabinet and Tory backbenchers. The outline of the argument in the report is straightforward. The different schools of thought on monetarism are distinguished. The treatment by each school of the major questions in monetary policy are considered in the light of the evidence in support of them, and of the policy implications.

The report shows that tight money works primarily by damaging competitiveness since foreign exchange markets respond more quickly than do domestic wages and prices. The Government has chosen to tackle inflation in the United Kingdom by monetary policy alone. From Treasury simulations on the Treasury model it appears that for each one per cent by which tightening money reduces the on-going rate of inflation, there is a loss of output of about 4 per cent of one year's national income, and unemployment for one year of 2½ per cent of the work force.

The loss is concentrated heavily in manufacturing industry. The effect to be expected from the Government's medium-term financial strategy, and now emerging, is a reduction of about 8 per cent in the on-going rate of inflation—but at the cost of losing £60 thousand million of output with 5m man-years of unemployment.

The difficulties encountered since July in controlling the money supply and implementing the strategy lie not in any technical failures in the Bank of England, but in inherent incompatibilities between monetary targets, competitive banking, and freedom from foreign exchange control in an open economy, which cannot be remedied by monetary base control.

The committee has given more serious and sustained attention to monetary policy than has the Cabinet. There can be no question of disloyalty or weakness on the part of the Tory majority on the committee.

The Government may now decide not to continue its medium-term financial strategy as originally conceived. The money supply targets have been well and truly breached, manufacturing industry has been made uncompetitive, and unemployment is causing great distress. Yet the Prime Minister says there is no alternative. The committee offers not just one alternative, but a range of alternatives, among which the Government can choose the policy that best reflects its own priorities on final objectives.

The Prime Minister exaggerates. She speaks of suitcase money. Then seeing no ground between that and 2.5m unemployed, she chooses the latter. Given the Government's commitments and priorities, it would be reasonable for them now to accept cyclical variations in money supply as well as in public sector borrowing; to reduce interest rates and take other supporting action to reduce the exchange rate, if necessary at the cost of money supply targets; and so to bring about some measure of reflation.

At the beginning of the inquiry, the committee sent a questionnaire to witnesses plainly drafted to draw out the debate which has been going on at a technical level.

Treasury ministers chose to respond with a superficial memorandum with not a single figure or statistic in reply to the detailed questions. The Bank of England and most other witnesses took the questionnaire more seriously, uncovering the grave doubts about the cost effectiveness and practicality of the Government's policy which emerge in the report. When eventually the Treasury did respond with a memorandum on the background of the Government's economic policy, it became apparent that they had no defence to offer.

From the beginning the committee had set the level of its work by seeking as advisers and witnesses the prime researchers and operators.

Among the seven advisers who helped with the monetary policy inquiry, Professor Marcus Miller made the outstanding contribution to the analysis. However, in working with prime researchers it is necessary to draw them not only from different schools of thought, but also from the different disciplines needed: the economic theorist who offers descriptions of behaviour; the econometrician with the techniques to build and test models that fit the data and test the theory; the economy watcher with his finger on the pulse; the policy designer who can put together the model and the current situation to produce a good policy reflecting the priorities of the policy maker; and the man who knows the institutions.

With the complexity of economic issues, the Treasury, National Institute and London Business Schools models emerged as important tools to be used critically in designing and testing policies.

To rely on the accuracy of forecasts of a few aggregates to discriminate between models and theories is to accept a slow learning rate that may never catch up with changes in the economy and in the models. So uncritical are customers for forecasts in the press, and in industry and the City, that lack of testing makes markets rather vulnerable to fashions in economic thought.

The report is open to criticism, but it marks at least a start on a more disciplined design and testing of policy than has been customary in the circus-like atmosphere of British economic debate.

Jeremy Bray

The author is Labour MP for Motherwell and a member of the Treasury and Civil Service Committee.

Out, damned spot

Every magazine for teenagers carries pages of advertisements for acne lotions and skin clearing creams and gels, often worded to play on adolescents' shame and misery about their spots. The extent of that misery is shown by the amount of money schoolchildren are prepared to spend on these remedies—partly because the advice offered by their parents (and too often by their doctors) is that acne is normal and that they will grow out of it.

Certainly acne usually worsens from 14 to 17 years and then gets better; but a few young adults are left with permanent disfiguring scars and every adolescent with his or her first spots is naturally anxious to find a way of preventing the condition getting worse. More important for the individual victims is some hope of rapid improvement: they want clear skin next week, not next year.

Until recently the tide of patent remedies was evidence that medicine had very little to offer. Doctors looked wise and talked about avoiding chocolate and pork and advised fresh air and exercise, exposure of the skin to sunlight, and the use of ultraviolet lamps. They prescribed all manner of lotions and creams, mostly based on sulphur, resorcinol, and salicylic acid. When none of this well-intentioned treatment halted the progress of severe acne they sometimes resorted to the use of X-rays or some form of surgery.

Nowadays something better can be offered, especially in severe cases. Research has improved medical understanding of the causes of acne, and specific, effective treatments are at last available. In addition to the well-known hormonal influences and the overactivity of the skin glands that produce greasy sebum, two other factors are important: colonization of the skin with bacteria, especially *Propionibacterium acnes*, and the formation in the skin of chemicals that promote inflammation.

Modern treatment is based on reducing the overactivity of the skin glands, attacking the bacteria, and blocking or modifying the chemical processes that cause inflammation.

Unfortunately, treating acne has not become simple and straightforward overnight. The vigour of the treatment needs to be balanced against the severity of the skin disorder. The drugs needed for severe, chronic acne with deepseated cysts in the skin have side effects making them unjustifiable for most patients; and many teenagers with mild acne will probably need no medical treatment at all.

The simplest treatment is a lotion based on either benzoyl peroxide or retinoic acid. Both drugs cause inflammation of the skin, with reddening and scaling, but after a few weeks they halt the development of new spots and so reduce the overall severity of the skin damage.

More persistent acne is best treated by a combination of a lotion and antibiotics to suppress skin bacteria. Two to four tablets of tetracycline are taken daily for six months; repeated courses may need to be given.

This combination will deal with 80 per cent of acne sufferers. The remainder will need treatment to reduce the amount of sebum formed in their skin glands. Treatment with oral contraceptives may be effective: or an antagonist to the androgen hormones may be used. The most effective drug, however, seems likely to be 13-cis-retinoic acid, a new variant of the retinoic acid found in many acne lotions.

The drug reduces by as much as 90 per cent the amount of sebum formed in the skin and changes its chemical composition, and within a few weeks the skin begins to clear. There are, however, side effects: the nose becomes dry and minor nosebleeds may be a problem, while the skin becomes inflamed and fragile. Treatment cannot be continued indefinitely, but the benefits persist for as long as 20 months after the drug is stopped. Research trials are still in progress, and 13-cis-retinoic acid is not yet available on prescription.

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GREEN IS NEUTRAL

The Rev Ian Paisley is not the only Irish politician who wants to know exactly what is going on in the Anglo-Irish studies initiated by Mrs Thatcher and Mr Haughey. In the Republic opposition leaders and some of Mr Haughey's own Fianna Fail party are jumpy about suggestions that Ireland's neutrality falls under the rubric of "the totality of relationships within these islands" which defines the scope of the studies. Nothing has been said that you can quite get hold of, but enough, coming from both sides, to alert suspicious minds. Tomorrow in the Dail Mr Haughey has an opportunity to explain.

Ireland's neutrality has been a fact of its life since the 1930s and has been tempered, you might say, in the furnace of others' war. The Irish-sounding question—whose side are you neutral on?—is still pertinent. As the Irish government sees it, the Republic is not ideologically, only militarily neutral. It has not joined the ranks of the non-aligned states. It is to be numbered among the nations of the West and specifically of western Europe, but as a non-combatant (before combat anyway). Membership of the European Community, which is of high importance to Ireland, itself entails a political alignment, and it is freely conceded in Dublin that if the time comes when the EEC develops a defence dimension Ireland will have to go along with it. This distinguishes the Irish brand of neutrality from that of other European neutrals. Sweden, for example, considered joining the Community but decided that the political and possible defence implications of membership would not be compatible with her neutrality.

The Republic's role in international affairs and in the United Nations especially is partly shaped by its position of neutrality. It enjoys a modest prominence on that stage which it would not have acquired by being a tail-end member of Nato. The Irish by and large bask in the status of being neutral. It fortifies the feeling of independence. It perhaps saves something on defence expenditure, already swollen by the calls of internal security. And nuclear neutrality is felt by some to give the Republic's citizens a better chance of escaping the worst catastrophe of all.

These considerations, as well as a thread of ideological non-alignment found in the Irish Labour Party, contribute to the general sentiment in favour of neutrality and account for the disturbance on the surface of Dublin politics now that it appears to be called in question. But of course the historical reason for Irish neutrality in relation to Britain and her alliances is that Ireland has not finally settled its score with its neighbour and will not have so long as the island is partitioned. What Mr Haughey's questioners want to know is whether neutrality is a counter in a possible deal concerning Irish unity.

Miss Sile de Valera, a member of the Dail and Mr Haughey's adjutant in the party coup that brought him to the top fifteen months ago, has indicated her approval for that possibility. The creation of a united Ireland, she said the other day, could lead to a reappraisal of Ireland's place in the defence of the West. When the proposition was put in concrete form to her grandfather in the summer of 1940 he rejected it. The Chamberlain Government tried very hard to get de Valera to agree to British naval access to Irish ports and common defence planning to repel a possible Nazi attack on Ireland in exchange for a British declaration in favour of Irish unity and the immediate establishment of a body to work out a new constitution. (All this without consulting Ulster.) De Valera said no—because he thought the Germans would win, the War Cabinet believed; because he did not trust Britain to deliver Ulster, Irish historians conclude. At any rate that piece of history suggests that Ireland will not barter its neutrality with Britain before it has gained the essentials of national unity.

Britain's interest in the matter is rather less acute. There is more than one opinion about the value of an Irish defensive alliance—as distinct from co-operation in internal security. The extra reach air and naval forces would get from access to the territory of the Republic remains an important factor in the defence of the western approaches—depending, however, on whether it is that sort of war for which precautions need to be taken. The soil of Northern Ireland anyway offers a partial substitute, as before.

Britain's other interest in this connexion is that Ireland should not come under hostile influence as a potential base for attack or subversion. That Cuban spectre would doubtless best be laid by the evolution of a peacefully united Ireland in membership of Nato. But since the spectre disturbs nobody's sleep it is not likely to be given a seat at the Anglo-Irish conference table. Mrs Thatcher's dismissive reply when asked on leaving Northern Ireland last week if a defence agreement was on the agenda probably reflects a lack of urgency regarding the matter in London.

THE POLISH BARGAIN AT RISK

The Polish authorities seem to be losing their touch. They have chosen an extraordinarily bad moment to revive harassment of dissidents and members of Solidarity. They are endangering their fragile understanding with the unions. They are risking a new wave of strikes. They are weakening their case with western governments and bankers, who could well have second thoughts about pumping still more money into Poland if the Polish government seems intent on blowing the place up.

When General Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, asked for three months of industrial peace from February 12 he said he would use the time to engage in the broadest possible dialogue with the unions. He was offering a sort of bargain, though he did not put it that way. He was saying that, if the unions would hold off, the government would work in good faith towards implementing the agreements reached with them. The unions have kept their side of the bargain. They have called no strikes and have been largely successful in holding down constantly simmering pressure for wildcat strikes. On one level the government has also kept its side of the bargain by continuing to negotiate.

On another level something else is now happening. Mr Jacek Kuron, of the social self-defence committee KOR, has been taken into custody for a few hours and warned that the long-standing investigation against him is being broadened to include the possibility of more serious charges. The nationalist group around Mr Moczulski, who has been in prison for some time, has been formally charged with attempting the violent overthrow of the system. A well-known reformer has been expelled from the party. And several members of Solidarity have been sacked from jobs in Lodz.

Probably the Polish party leaders were pushed towards these moves during the party congress in Moscow last week. The communiqué indicates that there was some frank speaking. It is also possible, however, that some people in the Polish apparatus took their cue straight from Moscow without waiting to consult the Prime Minister. If so, they are moving on to dangerous ground. The leaders of Solidarity are extremely sensitive to any sign that the security apparatus is being unleashed. They know that if they allow the process to start it will eventually reach them. This is why they have to take some notice of the fate of Mr Moczulski although they think his demand for Polish independence is dangerously irresponsible.

Mr Kuron is in another category. He is a member of Solidarity and close to Mr Lech Walesa, its leader. To put him on trial would be a direct challenge to Mr Walesa. It would also be extraordinarily foolish because whatever anyone thinks of his ideas he has been using his influence to moderate demands and discourage strikes, even to the extent of being called a traitor by angry students.

This points to the most immediate danger now facing Poland, which is not that the Russians will suddenly invade but that the sensitivity with which the present leadership has been handling the situation will falter because of internal disagreements and rash moves by rivals for power. Then things could fall apart quickly, for there really is no alternative to the present policy of compromise.

Poland has passed a point of no return and entered a new era. There is only one way the regime can regain authority and that is by earning it through genuine attempts to build on the present fragile consensus. The old methods cannot be revived without inviting disaster and frightening away the foreign money which Poland so badly needs. As Professor Richard Portes put it in his study of Polish indebtedness for the Royal Institute of International Affairs: "Re-scheduling the debt offers real promise only if the party and Solidarity, with the Church in attendance, can reach a more or less explicit accord on a serious economic and political stabilization programme."

David Wood

Time runs out for the Howe strategy

Nobody need be surprised that on Saturday a few television vans and crews, with a cohort of newspaper cameramen, happened to be passing through the Surrey village of Bletchingley when the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Howe suddenly appeared and strolled, as is their habit, in to the bar of the old White Harte Inn. They ordered ale and lager, and were caught on film standing in front of a menu offering Budget pie and Cabinet pudding. Sir Geoffrey's lips were sealed, of course, except to ask where and how often the photographers wanted him.

There is another level for budgetary reflection. As Sir Geoffrey sipped his ale with a fine show of an untroubled mind, he must have known that the hopes of the Government and the Conservative Party in the next general election are riding on the Budget he will open in the Commons tomorrow.

It is his third Budget, and in electoral terms almost certainly it will prove decisive. Hardly anybody in politics believes that the Government could win a new lease of power in circumstances of rising or abnormally high unemployment, factory closures, liquidations and bankruptcies, high interest rates, an over-valued pound, failing production, non-growth, and all the rest of a bleak economic story.

This is an electoral, not an economic theme. If one had to say why the Conservative Party won the general election in May, 1979, the answer would have to be that workers and their wives deserted Labour in droves to join the bedrock Tories. Their reasons were no doubt complex. They had, for example, lost faith in étatisme, in the social contract between the Labour government and trade unions, in a public sector punitively carried by the private sector, in public ownership as against private and individual ownership, in controls as against freedom, in money that continually lost its value. They were ready for a change and to take a chance and Mrs Thatcher offered both.

Today there must be few of those Labour electors who would stand by their voting conversion of May, 1979. They are presumably on their way back to the Labour Party, or telling opinion polls that they will consider voting next time for a Social Democrat-Liberal alliance. But the loss of the Conservative Party's 1979 converts is not all. No less, the core of the Conservative vote is being eroded. Industries and businesses large and small begin to feel the pinch of monetarist policies, and the squeals of the CBI and small businessmen drown the protests of the TUC.

There is not much electoral point in saying, and Conservative politicians can say, that there is a world trade recession from which Britain cannot stand immune, or that if only the Government were allowed enough time then everything would come right. The fact is that after nearly two years of Thatcherism voters now expect to see results, and the Chancellor, apart from his first Budget, has few results to show other than a falling inflation rate that should be expected in a time of recession.

Increasingly, even within the Conservative Party, the conclusion spread that the prescription has not worked, and that there is now not enough time for it to work to be any use for saving marginal or near-marginal seats when the general election comes.

Ominously, as Mrs Thatcher will be the first to note, there is a general revival of the call for the state to assume responsibility for industry and business, for job creation, for taxing efficient Peter to pay inefficient Paul. Reflation and state intervention are again the political watchwords. The CBI and the TUC are nearly at one. Some Conservative backbenchers are scarcely distinguishable from Labour backbenchers. The electoral mood that produced Mrs Thatcher's famous victory in 1979 wanes fast, although it is plain that Mrs Thatcher herself, or her Chancellor, could not renounce the principle of state withdrawal from industrial and business decisions that lay at the heart of the 1979 economic strategy.

For the Government, then, unless the Chancellor does the trick in his budget tomorrow, time begins to run out for Conservative politicians who hope and pray that within two years, without any fudging over North Sea revenues or U-turns, Mrs Thatcher's thesis will be vindicated for all to see.

Meanwhile, what of the Labour Opposition's challenge to the Government? Within two or more years' time nobody may be sure how serious the breakaway of the Social Democrats, and their possible alliance with the Liberals, will prove to be. Some seats may be lost here and there by the Labour and Conservative Parties, although on the whole the remapping of constituency boundaries could turn out to be more disturbing. The party constitutional fuss about the leadership election, though, will probably have little or no electoral impact when the day comes.

Mr Michael Foot is certainly entitled to feel that he has been unfortunate in the timing of his election as party leader. Yet not in all respects. A political romanticist like him, not to say an old-fashioned non-conformist ranter, could scarcely have superimposed upon events a selection of electoral themes more favourable to his gifts and limitations.

He has three marvellously woolly subjects that he can hammer on every platform he visits from now until polling day: abnormally high unemployment, withdrawal from the EEC into Britain's cosy socialist island, and nuclear disarmament.

Sound Conservative judges accept that these are, and will continue to be, profoundly emotional political subjects of the kind Mr Foot is good at and well practised in, and consequently they are difficult to handle simple and rationally at election time. The emotion aroused by one may easily be made to run over into another, and Mr Foot will need no teaching how to do it.

So Sir Geoffrey Howe carries a big party responsibility tomorrow. The Government's fate may be in his hands.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UK power to decide for Canada

From Professor O. Hood Phillips, QC

Sir, Lord Alport in his letter today (March 5) suggests that the United Kingdom Government should now advise the Canadian Government that it intends to repeal section 7 of the Statute of Westminster before the end of the parliamentary session. Such an amendment to the Statute of Westminster made by the United Kingdom Parliament, however, would be a breach of established and declared constitutional convention if it were enacted otherwise than at the request and with the consent of (both Houses of the Parliament of) Canada.

Incidentally section 7(2), extending section 2 to the Canadian Provinces and their legislatures, would need to be retained.

Yours faithfully,
O. HOOD PHILLIPS,
24 Heaton Drive,
Edgbaston, Birmingham.

From Mr Leslie Millin

Sir, For those of us born in the United Kingdom but of Canadian citizenship, current developments regarding the Canadian Constitution are particularly painful. Conversations with intelligent, perceptive friends in the United Kingdom lead me to feel that many Britons do not fully appreciate the probable consequences of any move in Westminster, however well intended, to block or alter whatever request is put forward by the Parliament of Canada.

No useful purpose will be served by tampering with what is sent forward. For better or worse the Parliament of Canada is just that: the legally elected body speaking for all Canadians. Of course there are differences of opinion, strongly held; but Canada is a representative democracy, not a participatory democracy, a fact that those in Westminster would do well to remember.

Anything other than speedy passage of the Canadian request will result only in creating even deeper divisions in Canadian society, and prejudicing relations between the two countries. You may rely upon it that delays or amendments in the United Kingdom will be seized upon by extremist elements in Quebec as proof that they were right, and the electorate wrong, when the separatist option was rejected in that province. The anti-monarchist movement would be strengthened in the country as a whole. What conceivable benefit is there to either country in that?

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE MILLIN,
Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, W1.
March 5.

From Mr Tom McNally, MP for Stockport, South (Labour)

Sir, I have a growing foreboding that the British Parliament is going to make a complete ass of itself over the matter of the Canadian Constitution. Indeed, I have already heard a colleague with impeccable radical credentials talking in all seriousness about "the responsibilities of the imperial Parliament".

As the Labour Party knows to its cost, politicians find a good constitutional wrangle well-nigh irresistible. However I believe we would do grave damage to relations with Canada if the British Parliament started to delude itself that it has responsibilities beyond acquiescing to a legitimate request for cooperation from a sister sovereign parliament. To do otherwise would be to set us on a road fraught with dangers.

If the Canadian people object to what Canadian legislators do on their behalf they will be able to have their say in a general election. That is their right and we should not usurp it.

Yours sincerely,
TOM McNALLY.
House of Commons.

Effect of charges on planning schemes

From the Secretary General of the Royal Town Planning Institute and others

Sir, The proposed introduction of charges for planning applications as a new source of local government revenue was opposed by bodies representing the professions, industry, and community groups on the principle that the planning system exists for the benefit of the community as a whole rather than the applicant.

Doubts were also expressed about whether it was possible to devise a scheme of charges which would be both cost-effective and equitable. Despite this opposition the proposal was incorporated in the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980.

Regulations setting out the scheme of fees to be charged have now been laid before Parliament and, if confirmed by the House of Lords on March 9, will come into effect on April 1, 1981.

We recognize the attempt made in the regulations to devise a practical and equitable scheme of charges. Nevertheless, the regulations confirm our fears about the inherent defects of any charging scheme.

The scheme is unlikely to be cost-effective and will have only marginal relevance to local government finance. The assessment and collection of fees will make additional demands on staff at a time when the Secretary of State is encouraging local authorities to make more productive use of manpower, will divert professional resources from their role of facilitating development, and will add to the time taken to process applications.

Criticism of the financial return cannot be met simply by increasing the proposed charges to raise additional revenue. Apart from problems of evasion, enforcement and attendant costs, which could then be anticipated, charges would become a new financial burden on applicants and on development without any practicable means of distinguishing charities and other deserving cases.

Whatever the level of charges it will always be difficult to strike a balance between the different categories of development which will command general acceptance.

The interpretation and implementation of the regulations also raise certain important practical problems and the serious and continuing difficulties which followed the introduction of building regulation charges only a year ago afford a cautionary and unfortunate precedent.

Notwithstanding the considerable efforts made to devise a workable scheme, we therefore believe that the House of Lords would be well advised not to improve the regulations because of the inherent difficulty of this or, indeed, of any other charging scheme, in reconciling cost-effectiveness, simplicity, equity and due observance of the law.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FRYER, Secretary General, The Royal Town Planning Institute.
NICHOLAS HINTON, Director, National Council for Voluntary Organisations.
PHILIP TAYLOR, Director, Company Affairs, Confederation of British Industry.
P. K. HARRISON, Secretary, The Royal Institute of British Architects.
PETER PURTON, Chairman, The Law Society's Planning Law and Land Development Committee.
ROGER HUMBER, Director, The House Builders Federation.
KENNETH COOPER, Director General, National Federation of Building Employers.
BARNEY HOLBECHE, Parliamentary Secretary, National Farmers' Union.
The Royal Town Planning Institute,
26 Portland Place, W1.
March 5.

Shape of the slump

From Mr R. H. Price

Sir, Your Economics Editor writes (March 6) about the L-shape slump, under a heading similar to that of the "Economic Outlook" column of the February issue of *Chief Executive*. I was not entirely unassociated with the preparation of the latter article. In the course of writing it, at the beginning of the year, I wondered whether we were seeing not an L-cycle but rather a side view of a dimly-lit flight of stairs. This was excessively cynical; so too, having declared my own culpability, is reference now to an L-cycle.

Assuming no violent change in the Government's fiscal stance in the Budget we will very shortly have evidence of the beginning of rather slow growth of output. The initial engine of this hesitant upturn will be the end of destocking in much of industry, mildly supported by higher consumer spending, itself partly sustained by a lower personal savings ratio.

In time, a lower pound (? still lower) combined with less irresponsible wage settlements will improve both net exports and profitability. The latter will help to restore business confidence, and so investment intentions. And so we shall have not an L- but a U-cycle, very weak but still positive. Let Mr Blake remember this in, say, nine months' time, when the evidence of what is actually beginning to happen now will be much plainer.

What matters, of course, is whether this is good enough. David Blake rightly addresses himself in his article to the balance of priorities between, crudely, inflation and growth. It is possible to agree with much of his analysis; and indeed with his conclusion.

Good, healthy companies have been forced to take out soundly-based capacity because of their chronic lack of competitiveness in a depressed world market. Much of this lack of competitiveness has resulted directly from government policies. The latter have aimed to reduce inflation, and this has been achieved much more rapidly than the Government expected. But the price has been a heavy one. So yes: now is the time to re-examine priorities. But 12 months ago would have been a much better time.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. PRICE,
Kingscot, The Parade, Monmouth.
March 6.

VAT on old buildings

From Lord Duncan-Sandys, CH, and others

Sir, While all new building construction is exempt from value-added tax, restoration and rehabilitation work has to bear the tax at 15 per cent.

This appreciably increases the heavy cost of repair of cathedrals, churches and historic houses, which are among our greatest cultural assets and tourist attractions. Likewise, the real value of government grants for the enhancement of our historic towns and the improvement of ordinary housing is correspondingly reduced. Delayed maintenance can only result in much greater expenditure in years to come.

The freeing of restoration and repair work from value-added tax would be entirely in line with joint recommendations made recently by the British Government and the governments of other member-states of the Council of Europe that the restoration and modernization of old buildings should be given assistance comparable to that accorded to new construction.

We therefore earnestly urge that this unfair and damaging burden should be removed and thereby help and encourage the proper care and maintenance of our irreplaceable architectural heritage.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN-SANDYS, WEMYSS,
GERALD LONDIN, GEORGE HOWARD,
DERMAN CHRISTOPHERSON, DIANA READER HARRIS,
HENRY MARKING, IVOR BULMER-THOMAS,
MICHAEL MONTAGUE, GRAFTON,
BRIAN JEFFERSON, MICHAEL ROBBINS,
JOHN COLLINS, ROLAND WADE,
GIBSON, MARCUS BINNEY,
Civic Trust,
17 Carlton House Terrace, SW1.
March 5.

Staying on course

From Mr Ray Whitney, MP for Wycombe (Conservative)

Sir, Geoffrey Smith is certainly right to say (article, February 27) that our post-war failures stem from a mix of economic and political conditions which is unique and which includes unusually powerful trade unions, an exceptionally large public sector and a weakness in social cohesion and political authority.

He might also have mentioned the contribution of Britain's media to the undermining of that authority and the baneful effects of the increasingly dominant position in the party of alternative government enjoyed by a handful of union oligarchs. Foreign observers, who used to believe that democracy counted in this country even if efficiency might not, find this phenomenon particularly bizarre.

And are there not other carriers and agents of the British disease, who can cause special damage to Conservative governments — the "safe" organisation men who might belong to the Reform or the the Athenaeum and buy their shirts in Jermyn Street and who are found in Whitehall, the public institutions, in County Hall and the National Health Service? They are urbane and experienced—and, too often, deeply cynical and negative.

Worst of all, they fail to accomplish many of the tasks set them by those they disdain as their "political masters". Growth in the money supply is not brought under control, spending cuts are made to bring minimum relief to the public purse and maximum political harm, the Government is led into a damaging and totally unlooked-for confrontation with the miners and is cleverly resisted in its efforts to reduce the state's role in the national economy.

In his conclusion, Mr Smith drew a distinction between the public good and what is electorally advantageous and suggested that in recent years politicians of all parties had favoured the latter. Insofar that this juxtaposition is valid, in modern times we have surely had no Prime Minister less guilty of the charge of courting electoral popularity than Margaret Thatcher. Indeed much of the pressure on her now is to do precisely that and "return to the centre", that placebo-land where we have all wallowed for so long and where the Liberals and Social Democrats, with the support of many of the "safe" men, are now conducting their excited but nervous minuet.

Surrender to such pressure would entail the abandonment of the main thrust of the Government's original strategy and would indeed justify an accusation of sacrificing the public good. An over-expansionary Budget would nullify the sacrifices made so far.

There are a number of signs that the end of the recession is in sight but there is also a real danger of a resurgence of an even more destructive inflation over the next year or two. We should then be stuck firmly back on that old circuitous track described by Geoffrey Smith—with the difference that we should be spiralling still more viciously downwards.

Yours sincerely,
RAY WHITNEY,
House of Commons.

Contempt proposals

From Miss Harriet Harman

Sir, If the Contempt of Court Bill reaches the statute book in its present form, leaked newspaper reports about the riot in Wormwood Scrubs and programmes like Yorkshire Television's "The Secret Hospital" might not be possible.

The Bill adds a dangerous new dimension to contempt by extending its reach "to all inferior courts and tribunals which . . . exercise any part of the judicial power of the State".

It was only bit by bit, during August, 1979, that news began to leak into the papers that many prisoners in Wormwood Scrubs had been badly injured by a MUFTI (Minimum Use of Force Tactical Intervention) squad of prison officers. The Home Office volunteered no information and a prison visitor was sacked for speaking out. Eventually the full story emerged and the public learnt, for the first time, of the specially trained, mobile MUFTI squad.

If the Contempt Bill had been law the facts might never have emerged. For inevitably after a disturbance, prisoners are charged and appear before the prison board of visitors. This happened after the Hull and Wormwood Scrubs disturbances. The board of visitors is clearly exercising judicial power. Lord Justice Waller said in the Hull Board of Visitors case that when "dealing with disciplinary matters the duties of the board were judicial". So newspapers would be muzzled until the long process of boards of visitors' hearings had been completed. The position of the press would be fraught with uncertainty. How would they find out whether prisoners had been charged, or whether all the adjudications had been completed? They certainly could not rely on the Home Office to volunteer the information.

The Bill could also affect discussion of mental hospitals. Yorkshire Television's documentary "The Secret Hospital" no doubt raised issues which touched on cases of patients about to appear before mental health review tribunals. Allegations of wrongdoing by nursing staff could have been the subject of internal disciplinary proceedings.

At best, the Bill would have a severe chilling effect, at worst it could prevent discussion. We know very little about what goes on in our prisons and mental hospitals. The Government's Contempt Bill would see to it that in future we know even less.

Yours sincerely,
HARRIET HARMAN,
Legal Department,
National Council for Civil Liberties,
186 King's Cross Road, WC1.

Objectives in Africa

From Mr Brian Crozier

Sir, The danger of Soviet imperialism has been spelt out recently in unambiguous terms by President Reagan, his Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher. At this time of danger, the only sensible guiding principle of foreign policy is whether a course of action is likely to advance or impede Soviet aims.

With these thoughts in mind, it is disquieting to learn that Britain's advice to the Americans, during the recent summit talks in Washington, was to put pressure on South Africa to accept the United Nations plan for elections in Namibia, even though elections under such auspices would almost certainly bring Swapo, the rebel group, to power. In support of this thesis it was argued that a different course was likely to lead to further destabilization and in the end still bring Swapo, by then much radicalized, to power.

The logic of this argument is elusive. It amounts to saying that to frustrate Soviet aims, we must help to bring Swapo, already a Soviet instrument, to power; failing which, Swapo will be still more hostile than it already is. Similarly, Neville Chamberlain argued that to prevent Hitler becoming really nasty, we had better hand him Czechoslovakia.

What, in fact, are the Soviet objectives in southern Africa? They may be summed up briefly as follows:

1. Bring Swapo to power in Namibia, thus completing the isolation of South Africa.
2. Gain control of the important Atlantic harbour of Walvis Bay, which is South African sovereign territory but could easily be made untenable if Namibia were in Marxist hands.
3. In due course, mount terrorist operations against South Africa from bases in Namibia (and in time from Zimbabwe, despite Mugabe's initial reluctance to welcome Soviet diplomats).
4. In the long term, gain control over the mineral resources of South Africa.

There would be other, by no mean negligible, side-benefits to the Soviets from allowing Swapo to come to power. Life would be made difficult for the leader of the anti-Marxist guerrillas in southern Angola, Savimbi, who has scored inspiring successes against the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) regime, backed by Cuba and East Germany.

The policy advocated by the British in southern Africa is indeed the exact opposite of that which would serve the long-term interests of this country and the West. Priority ought to be given to supporting Savimbi and the FLNA (Angola National Liberation Front) guerrillas in northern Angola, with the object of destabilizing the Cuban and East German surrogate position in that country and elsewhere in Africa. A side-benefit would be to make life difficult not for Savimbi (who is on our side), but for Sam Nujoma of Swapo (who is in the other camp).

It is argued in support of the current British line that unless the South Africans go along with the UN plan, incidentally endangering their own security, the UN will decree mandatory sanctions, and if we do not join in, we shall lose those dazzling contracts with Nigeria. Well, perhaps we shall, and again perhaps we shall not. Nigeria needs Britain as much as we need Nigeria; and that country, along with Angola, Mozambique and others, does a nice line in trade with South Africa.

What is certain, however, is that if we allow the Soviets to gain control over South Africa's strategic minerals, Nigerian or any other contracts will cease to be of much interest, for the survival of the West will be at risk.

As for the argument that once in power Swapo can be made to be more reasonable, one can hardly suppose that it is meant to be taken seriously. In the real world, that is not the kind of thing that happens: Sadat and Siad Barre are exceptions to a grim rule. To back friends rather than enemies is a sound principle.

Sir, in the unfortunate period of American history now happily ended, the need for solidarity with Washington was advanced to justify support for the weak policies of the Carter Administration. An excellent principle. But there has been a change of team in Washington, and by the same token, we should back the tougher line of the new team.

Yours very truly,
BRIAN CROZIER,
112 Bridge Lane,
Temple Fortune, NW11.
March 3.

Surrender to Japanese

From Mr Louis Allen

Sir, David Watts's interesting piece (March 3) on the Singapore wax tableau of the surrender ceremony in 1942 says that the Sentosa Development Corporation has been trying to find a photograph of General Percival showing his expression and that the photograph they have was taken from General Yamashita's side "to spare General Percival's blushes".

This is, of course, nonsense. The corporation cannot have looked very far. The event was one of the most photographed, drawn and painted moments in the entire war, and there are countless Japanese reproductions of it. Your own, incidentally, doesn't show General Percival at all, but one of his escort; nor is this person "marching to the surrender ceremony with General Tomoyuki Yamashita". The Japanese officer in question was Colonel Sugita, who still lives in Tokyo and recalls the occasion very well. There is one particular pictorial record of it in some detail in a printed collection of shots from Japanese newsreels, in the book *Nihon Nyusu Eiga-shi* (*A History of Japanese Newsreel Documentaries*), published in 1977 by Mainichi Shimbunsha.

It won't do, incidentally, though Percival was given an almost impossible task, to suggest the idea of a museum might "prompt wider knowledge of his role" since he "took command in Singapore only months before the Japanese invasion". In fact, in 1937, Percival was GSO1 on General Dobbie's staff in Malaya and prepared a detailed paper showing the defence problems and needs which was quite perceptive; so he knew very well what the issues were. Simply, knowledge wasn't enough.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS ALLEN,
Dun Cow Cottage,
Durham.

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 2 Dealings End, March 13. § Contango Day, March 16. Settlement Day, March 23

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A — B

C — E

F — H

I — L

M — N

O — S

T — Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duchess of Kent will attend the Variety Club's Coach Rally, to be held in Hyde Park, London, on April 25.

Princess Alexandra will visit Chilworth Village Settlement, near Andover, Hampshire, on May 5, to mark the opening of an additional hostel and housing complex for disabled people.

A thanksgiving service for the life of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape will be held in Westminster Abbey on Wednesday, April 8, 1981, at 11.30. Applications for tickets should be made in the following order to Wednesday, March 25: Ministry of Defence (Navy) NP2, Room 211, Archway Block South, Old Admiralty Building, Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BE. Telephone: 01-218 6795.

A stained glass window in memory of Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer will be dedicated at a special service in the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, on Sunday, June 21, 1981 at 11 am.

Birthdays today

Dame Isobel Baillie, 85; General Sir Frank King, 62; Sir Ben Lockspeiser, 90; Sir Ronald Melville, 69; Sir Steuart Mitchell, 79; Mr Peter Quennell, 76; Professor K. E. Robinson, 67; Sir Herbert Thompson, 83; Lord Thurlow, 69; Mr Rex Warner, 76.

The Pope's birth-control 'obsession' pains some Catholics

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

According to a commentator in the *Catholic Herald*, conservative circles in the Vatican are becoming uneasy about the constant emphasis of Pope John Paul II on the immorality of contraception. It is not that they disagree with the party line: more that he is upsetting the live-and-let-live policy of Pope Paul VI, and stirring up a controversy that will end in tears.

Although there is more than a year to go before he is due to visit Britain, there is nervousness here, too. The one thing the English Roman Catholic Church needs least, it is said, is a papal visit which will draw attention to the birth control issue.

It is not difficult to find Roman Catholic churchman in Britain who will refer to the appalling poverty and social chaos in the Philippines caused by the birth rate, sigh over the Pope's remarks there on contraception, and shake their heads. In some, it has become a pain too deep to express.

When he speaks on human rights and social justice, the Pope articulates brilliantly the feelings of those for whom Christianity's worldly face is about that, and little else. There is the pre-eminent spiritual dimension to their faith, of worship, prayer, and reflection; but as it impinges on the world it is about man's inhumanity to man, and how to reverse it. That has become true across the denominations and in all schools of doctrine; and it is as much the concern of the grass roots as of the leadership. Those who judge churches from the outside, from nostalgic memories or preconceived theories, have failed to make the necessary close inspection.

Yet the Pope as spokesman for this passion for justice, the one man who can command world headlines and move governments, also has this disqualifying obsession (as it seems to many, some in his camp, to be).

Injustice can be caused by many things: unfair First World trading policies, ideological repression of the left or right, the greed of rich landowners, United States foreign policy, racialism, Soviet imperialism. Yet the Pope refuses to add what many would regard as being as much a factor as any other, overpopulation. It is not on his list, and he carries some of the responsibility for it.

He alone, by a single pronouncement, can add or subtract hundreds of millions to the total of mouths to be fed 20 years on, and add or subtract an equivalent quantity of human suffering. For all the good will and interdenominational cultural tolerance with which the papacy can be regarded, now that compulsive anti-papistry has retreated to the fringes of Western civilization, it is still hard to treat the present pope as other than an ambivalent moral force, as capable of as much evil as good.

At least that seems to be how he is regarded in English Christianity, Roman Catholic as much as non-Catholic. It may not be polite to say so in public, but it is certainly said in private.

It is commonly accepted, and probably true, that most of the Pope's relationship with the world is in the hands of a small group of predominantly conservative curial officials in the Vatican, who tell him what they think he ought to know. It is an arrangement which is safe only so long as his reactions to what they tell him can be manipulated with the same ease. A pope who is his own man, as John Paul II certainly is, will react his own way. It will, undoubtedly, be an honest and bold reaction, fair but outspoken comment on the facts as received.

If those facts have been carefully selected to serve a particular set of interests or prejudices, then the Pope will be far off the rails without even knowing it. Unfortunately, in the case of birth control, the manipulation of factual evidence has become a Roman Catholic habit, almost a reflex, an unconscious selection of what serves the argument, rejecting what unsettles it. It is as if Whitehall provided the Cabinet only with evidence which supported monetarism, and which demonstrated that the chosen implementation of monetarist principles was the correct one.

Those with reservations about the papal line on contraception have been moved further from the throne; one who expresses doubts will not be promoted; those who clamour against the official view will be either silenced or discredited: if token married people are required to give their account of married life to official church bodies, such as the Roman Synod last autumn, they will be carefully selected.

If a grouping such as the English pastoral congress at Liverpool, expresses its concern, an official gloss will be supplied, to undermine its force. (There is firm evidence that that happened.) A book challenging the policy will be banned (as has happened). And on the far side of that information filter stands the Pope, himself at least half-conditioned to reject what does not fit into the official picture. It would be a brave man who challenged it.

OBITUARY

MR FRED LOADS

Radio gardener with the common touch



Mr Fred Loads, who as a founder member of the BBC radio programme, *Gardeners' Question Time*, disseminated a wealth of gardening wisdom and lore throughout homes up and down the country for over 30 years, died at the weekend at the age of 78. He had retired from the programme only last year.

He was by birth a Norfolk man, but his voice had taken on the accents of Lancashire from his long years of residence there, first in Burnley and later, near Lancaster. And it was this voice with its no-nonsense inflections which seemed the natural vehicle for the fund of commonsense about every conceivable gardening matter which emanated from the programme twice a week over the years.

On the *Gardeners' Question Time* team which included Professor Alan Gemmell as the scientific expert and Bill Sowerbutts as the authority on *market gardening (both are of* course still in harness), Fred Loads was the all rounder. And it was his ability to think about the problems of the complete beginner contemplating the tillage of a scrap of back garden in a terrace cottage in Wigan, which made such a contribution to the extraordinary popularity of the programme.

Fred Loads was born in Worstead, Norfolk. His father *had been a gardener but the* young Fred Loads's first ambition was to be an electrician. The sheer rusticity of his childhood environment—far in both distance and time from any advanced notions of electrical power—put paid, however, to this aim and he learnt about the secrets of the soil as his father had done before him. His first professional wage was 3s 6d a week.

He saw army *service with the* Norfolk Regiment but this merely increased his fund of gardening knowledge. In the fulness of time he became Regimental Gardening Instructor of the Norfolk Regiment and in that capacity was responsible for many strange horticultural apparitions in the regions of the world visited by the regiment on service. He induced onions to grow in the Nilghiri Hills of Southern India, introduced mulberry bushes to Aden and, among other things, super*vised the laying out of the* Baghdad racecourse.

After leaving the army he *continued gardening, widening* his experience and travelling all over Britain. He first contributed to gardening broadcasts in the late war years, but it was in 1947 that the programme which eventually carried his name to well over a million listeners was created by the BBC in Manchester. It *later became one of the first* programmes to break out of the Northern Region to become a *national institution*.

As a contributor to the programme Fred Loads was quite capable of thinking big if need was. But his great virtue as far as many listeners were concerned, was his ability to think small, an ability based on his own small garden in the Lune Valley near Lancaster. A *garden which he had designed* to be maintainable in two and a half hours per week was one which immediately gave him something in common with the non specialist gardener, coping with work, family and a thousand other cares at the same time. Loads's homely counsel always appeared to acknowledge the realities of the average person's existence. The merest postage stamp of a *cabbage patch, the wretchedest* row of beans, were all worth his consideration. And he did *not hesitate to share his own* reliance on corner cutting devices—the carpet shampooer for running hormone solution into a lawn, the paint brush for applying weedkiller—with the listener.

Above all, perhaps, he gave the impression of liking plants, and this affection spilled over onto his listeners who perhaps came insensibly to the opinion, too, that the most satisfying *results were, in the end, to be* obtained from a knowledgeable sympathy with the contents of *their own gardens*.

Loads is survived by a widow and two daughters.

MR GEORGE GEARY

Mr George Geary, the Leicestershire cricketer and a leading all-rounder for England between the wars, died on March 6. He was 87.

Eldest of 16 children of a bootmaker, he was born on July 9, 1893, in Barwell, 15 miles from Leicester, to which he would cycle daily, roll the ground and bowl all day, returning by cycle to roll the Barwell ground before dark.

He played first for Leicestershire in 1912. Ewart Astill, a name for ever associated with his, and he were two of the four survivors from the pre-First World War era still playing in 1938 when Geary retired. *His talent for detecting ability* with his sharp brown eyes and his flair for coaching were unsurpassed. He was at Charterhouse 1939-58 (P. B. H. May, currently president of the MCC and chairman of the ICC, was one of his products) and at age 67 went to Rugby where he stayed until he was 76.

Always bowling in a cap, his best performance in an innings was 10 for 18 in 1929 against Glamorgan (16 for 96 in the match), the most remarkable figures before Verity's 10 for 10.

As he aged, his batting improved; he scored three centuries out of his total of seven in his last *season. Geary was* one of the best slips in the world.

Playing five times against Australia in England, usually getting runs as well as wickets, he toured South Africa 1924-25, India 1926-27, Australia 1928-29 and West Indies 1932. After breaking his nose in the first

Geary in the 1930s.

match on the Australian tour, *his best performance was 66* runs and five for 35 at Sydney: with his medium-pace leg*cutters he headed the bowling* averages. In the final Ashes-winning Test in sweltering heat at Melbourne, Geary created a record for endurance in Test cricket in Australia with 81 overs in an innings.

He was made an honorary life member of MCC. All his distinguished performances and *dedication apart*, the most lasting impressions for the humble Barwell villager were tiger-hunting, eating off gold-plate and residing in suites in maharajahs' palaces.

Recently a George Geary stand was named after him at the Leicestershire county cricket ground.

MR MICHAEL FROSTICK

Mr Michael Frostick, the well known motoring journalist, author and broadcaster, and Chairman of the Guild of Motoring Writers since last December, was killed with his wife in a car crash in France *last week while returning from* the Geneva motor show. He was 63.

A prolific writer—he was the author of 34 books on various aspects of motoring and the motor car—he will perhaps best be remembered by his widest audience for his forthright, pungent and often amusing comments on car design and performance in his role of co-presenter and reporter throughout the eleven year run of the BBC 2 television programme *Wheelbase*.

A brilliant speaker with an ever alert mind, his counsel was sought widely in the motoring field, and among his more recent activities he was a member of the Advisory Council of the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu, and secretary and treasurer of the British Chapter of the Society of Automotive Historians. He was also an acknowledged expert in the valuation of veteran and historic cars.

Born on October 26, 1917, he was educated at Brighton College and later at the Sandhurst Military Academy and served as a captain in the Royal Dragoons during the Second World War.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. L. J.-M. Weemaels and Miss R. L. Burnaby-Atkins
The engagement is announced between Marc, *son of M and* Mme Pierre Weemaels, 131 Chaussée de Roodebeek, 1200 Brussels, and Rosamond, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick and the Hon Mrs Burnaby-Atkins, Oaksey, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

Mr S. A. Husain and Miss P. G. Ellis
The engagement is announced between Shaukat Afzal eldest son of Qazi Afzal Husain and Mrs Khurshid Husain, of Karachi, Pakistan, and Pamela Gillian, third *daughter of the late W. Geoffrey* Ellis and Mrs Ellis, of Victoria, British Colombia, Canada.

Captain J. M. Mulholland and Miss D. M. S. Wilson
The engagement is announced between John Martin Mulholland, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Martin Mulholland, of North Hall, *East Chiltington, Lewes, Sussex*, and Diana Margaret Sara, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Wilson, of Ballygarvey, Ballymena, co Antrim, Northern Ireland.

Mr S. Pigott and Mrs C. McDean
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Dr *and Mrs Brian Pigott*, and Christine, only daughter of Mrs Bridget Welch.

Mr J. Q. G. H. Rappoport and Miss A. S. Knapp
The engagement is announced between Quentin, son of Mrs Eve Seward, of *Rodmell, Sussex*, and the late Flying Officer J. G. Rappoport, and Andria, daughter of Mrs E. P. Knapp, of Richmond, Virginia, United States, and the late Mr Knapp.

Mr J. Webster and Miss C. Joy
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and *Mrs John Webster, of Widley*, near Portsmouth, Hampshire, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Joy, of The Old Rectory, *Stoke Bliss, near Tenbury*, Worcestershire.

Mr N. R. A. Forman and Miss D. M. Dempster
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, *elder son of* Dr and Mrs J. A. S. Forman, of Goodleigh, Barnstaple, and Diana, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs K. R. Dempster of Maidenhead.

Mr J. W. Scott and Miss N. E. Finch
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Willoughby, son of Mr and Mrs F. W. Scott, of Stoke, *Plymouth*, and Nicole Elisabeth, daughter of Squadron Leader and Mrs F. D. Finch, of Colchester, Essex.

Mr M. I. Scott-Dalgleish and Miss E. G. Dayrell
The engagement is announced *between Moray*, son of the late Commander Innes Scott-Dalgleish, RNVR, and of Mrs Scott-Dalgleish, of Jersey, Channel Islands, and Georgina, daughter of Major and Mrs Elphinstone Dayrell, of Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Mr C. D. Yates and Miss C. A. Chapman
The engagement is announced *between Colin, son of Mr and Mrs* Charles Yates, of Exeter, Devon, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Chapman, of Sandford Orcas, Sherborne, Dorset.

Marriages

Judge P. Mason, QC, and Miss S. Ricketts
The marriage took place quietly *in London on* March 6, 1981, between Judge Pete Mason, QC, of Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2, and Miss Sara Ricketts, elder daughter of Sir Robert and Lady Ricketts, of Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire.

***Mr S. C. Ingram* and Mrs J. Karro**
The marriage took place in London on March 6 between Mr Stanley Ingram and Mrs Jan Karro.

Dr P. S. L. Loo and Miss E. V. Jenkins
The marriage took place on February 21, 1981, at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon, between Dr *Paul Soo Lim Loo, son of Mr and* Mrs Loo Choon Kheam, of Penang, Malaysia, and Miss Veronica Jenkins, daughter of Mr and Mrs Birger Jenkins, *of* Ashburton, Devon.

Dinner

London Cornish Association
The London Cornish Association held a dinner at the *Park Lane* Hotel on Saturday. Sir Denis Truscott, president, presided accompanied by Lady Truscott, and Mr John Hosken proposed the toast of Cornwall and the association.

Service reunion

10th Princess Mary's Own *Gurkha Rifles*
The regimental association of 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles held its annual reunion at the Duke of York's headquarters, Chelsea, on Saturday.

Special Forces Club

The annual general meeting of the Special Forces Club will be held *in the 21st SAS Drill Hall, Block* D, Duke of York's Headquarters, King's Road, Chelsea, SW3, on Thursday, April 23, 1981, at 6.30.

Premium bond winners

The winning numbers in the weekly draw for £100,000, £50,000 and £25,000 Premium Savings *Bond prizes, announced on Saturday are:*
£100,000: 5XB 304048 (the winner comes from Surrey): £50,000: *7LW 355451 (Norwich)*: £25,000 25RN 019628 (West Midlands).

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, March 8, 1956

The last camp for Jewish displaced persons in Germany is shortly to be closed and its 640 inhabitants will move to new *homes in Germany or other countries.* A year or two after the *end of the war* there were as many as 250,000 European Jews who had escaped the gas chambers but lost their homes and livelihood and therefore had to be accommodated in camps. If this great number has now been whittled down to a few *hundreds* it is mainly because the new state of Israel opened its doors

Painting sale ends an art mystery

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A lost painting by Adam *Elsheimer, the influential German* artist who was working in Rome around 1600, is to be sold by Christie's on April 10. It is "St Helena questions the Jew" and comes from a seven-panel tabernacle; the other panels are owned by the Frankfurt Stadelisches Kunstinstitut. Its discovery by Christie's in Australia last year completes an extraordinary art *detective story*.

The very existence of the tabernacle (which depicts "The Finding and Exaltation of the True Cross") *had been forgotten until* 1927. In that year Mr J. A. F. Orbaan published an article in *Apollo Magazine* on documents he had found in the Medici archives in Florence

When a monograph on Elsheimer *was published in 1936* by Heinrich Weizsäcker, a sketch of the altarpiece by Ludovico Cigoli had also been discovered. The book, however, *still assumed that all the* panels were lost, although one was illustrated in the book

That was "Heraclius carrying the Cross", in the possession of Sir Alec Martin, a former chairman of Christie's. In 1938 another *panel, "The Glorification of the* Cross" was sent for sale at Christie's by the Duke of Norfolk; it was bought by Colnaghi's.

In 1939 Colnaghi's allowed the director of the Frankfurt museum to take the painting back to Germany on approval. The outbreak of war halted negotiations but afterwards Colnaghi's asked the museum whether it wished to proceed *with the purchase*.

It was only in 1952 that Weizsäcker published the second part of his book identifying the painting as the centre panel of the lost altarpiece. Sir Alec Martin's panel was still not recognized; but in 1955, *through the agency of Col*naghi's, it went to join the central panel in Frankfurt.

In 1970 the story was taken up by *Malcolm Waddingham* and Christopher Wright in the *Burlington Magazine*; they reported that the second wing, depicting the "Embarcation of St Helena" had been found in a private house in Ireland. Two months after the publication of the article, an Englishman took two tiny paintings he had found in the outhouse of his home to Christie's for identification; they were the first of the four tiny predella panels at the bottom of the altarpiece to be discovered.

In 1978 another of the predella panels was spotted by Jack Baer of Hazlitt, Gooden and Fox in a Bonham's auction. It was described as "seventeenth century Italian school" and estimated to fetch £150 to £300; Baer paid £50,000 *for it. That left one final predella* panel on the missing list.

But once more Christie's luck and skill has tracked it down. A photograph of the tiny painting, measuring only 15 by 15.5 cms, was sent to London by its Australian representative. It was Gregory Martin, grandson of Sir Alec and now one of Christie's Old Master experts, who realized what *it was. Nothing is known of* how it reached Australia.

"St Helena questions the Jew", the last missing painting of the Elsheimer tabernacle.

Latest wills

Bequests to youth organizations

Viscount Amory, of Tiverton, *Devon, Chancellor of the Ex*chequer 1958 to 1960, left estate valued at £464,784 net. He left £5,000 each to Blundells School, Tiverton, and the London Federation of Boys' Clubs, £3,000 each to Devon Boy Scouts Association, the YMCA National Council, Voluntary Service Overseas, and Tiverton Museum, and £1,000 each to Exeter University, Devon Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs and the Drake's Island Adventure Centre.

Other estates include (net, before duty paid):

Crerar, Mr Alexander, of Birkdale, Merseyside £149,614
Dawes, Mrs Hilda Lilian, of Paignton £188,566
Fothergill, Miss Maud Marian, of Ripon, Yorkshire £182,408

MP fails to shake minister on EEC 'tax'

Farming and food

Hugh Clayton

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, denied last week that there was an EEC "tax" on food which is imported to Britain from other Community countries. "Do get it right", he told Mr Mark Hughes, Labour MP for Durham, at a meeting of the Commons Select Committee on the European Communities.

Mr Hughes, an Opposition spokesman on farming and food, had obligingly continued the *tradition followed by the Oppo*sition since the 1979 general election of allowing the Government to continue its food policies virtually without interruption.

Mr Hughes began with a show of strength. He pawed the ground *with convincing menace, snorted* magnificently and charged at the minister. "When you argue that the French are in error and in wickedness", he asked, "does not your tongue stick in your throat when you are doing absolutely the same?"

Moments later he lay in a heap against the timbers at the far side of the arena. Mr Walker emerged from the encounter virtually unscathed, and most of the searching questions put by Mr Hughes remained unanswered.

Mr Walker dodged Mr Hughes's sallies by dancing nimbly across the gaps between sterling and the European currency unit, and between prices paid to farmers and those paid in shops. He rejected claims from suppliers in the rest of the EEC of food to Britain that their prices would fall if the British Government reduced the "tax".

The tax is a levy which protects British farmers from being under*cut by their counterparts in the* rest of the Community when sterling strengthens against other European currencies.

Mr Walker argued that the tax was extracted not from the pockets of British shoppers, but from the profits of exporters abroad. He adduced in evidence for that the fact that when the "tax" had operated in reverse under the *Labour Government, there had* been no relationship between its size and the movement of retail food prices.

In those days sterling was weak against other currencies, so that the EEC "tax" operated as a subsidy to bring the prices of food from abroad down to the levels operating in Britain. The purpose of the system is to achieve equal competition among food suppliers and to meet the requirement of the Treaty of Rome for a common market in agricultural produce.

Mr Walker stated that if there was a direct relationship between food prices and the EEC "tax" they would have moved in unison in the past. The fact that they did not do so then meant that they would not do so now. Clearly, the minister had kept his officials busy in devising arguments to support his case.

But in arguing from the state of affairs of the mid-1970s to that of the early 1980s, Mr Walker ignored the immense changes in currencies, prices, demand and *market shares that have occurred* in recent years.

It is as if a barrister defending a prisoner accused of theft were to say: "My client always wears green socks. Police records show that nobody convicted of a theft of this type has been found to wear green socks. My client is therefore innocent."

Mr Hughes tried gallantly to press the minister, but failed to undermine his argument. Mr Walker deftly turned it round by asking the Opposition spokesman *an embarrassing question*. "*I am* eagerly anxious that he should say by how much he wants to revalue the green pound", Mr Walker said. Mr Hughes did not give a direct answer.

He also omitted to press Mr Walker about the comments made about the Government's policy by those most closely affected by it. Food importers insist that it has kept food prices up as a device to protect the incomes of British farmers. But the farmers' unions insist that it has failed to prevent *their incomes from falling sharply*.

Mr Walker can thus be criticized for keeping cost of food unnecessarily high for a purpose which he has failed to fulfil.

Science report

Medicine: Improving hepatitis vaccine

By the Staff of *Nature*

A strategy that promises well for improving the efficiency of hepatitis vaccine has been reported by a team at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. The method applied by Professor A. J. Zuckerman and his colleagues should be equally effective whether *the active part* of the vaccine is prepared from virus grown in cultured cells or from genetically engineered bacteria.

Highly purified and inactivated particles of hepatitis virus have been shown to give protection against infection. But, as with any vaccine, it is advantageous to know the exact chemical identity of the component of the virus, the antigen, which stimulates the host's immune system to produce antibodies against the infection. It is likely that a vaccine prepared from that antigen alone will be more efficient and safer than one prepared from whole virus particles.

There is always a chance that the latter could be contaminated not *only* with *unwanted* virus material but also with material from the cells in which the viruses are grown. Such material might stimulate an unwanted response in the host.

For their antigen, Professor Zuckerman and his colleagues have therefore used a complex of two purified polypeptides, fragments of protein, extracted from the surface coat of the hepatitis virus. To make those polypeptides *immunologically* effective they have processed them by a technique developed a few years ago. Essentially the technique folds the thread-like *polypeptides into* structures such that the insoluble fraction points inside and the soluble fraction points outside, with the resulting advantage that the polypeptide is then soluble in water.

When the structures, known as micelles, are examined under the electron microscope, they appear as sponge-like clumps of protein material. Professor Zuckerman is hopeful that they will have *the further advantage* of acting as their own adjuvant. With many vaccines the antigen has to *be administered* together with a component that boosts the immunological reaction to *the required* level. Micelles seem to preclude that need because their structure ensures that *the maximum of* active material is exposed and able to raise antibodies.

So far a vaccine prepared from micelles has been tested for its immunological efficiency in mice. It turned out to be more efficient in raising antibodies against hepatitis than did a vaccine prepared from purified virus particles. Such studies are being repeated in *primates, together with other* tests to see how much protection micelles confer against *infection*.

A British patent has been taken out on the micelles, *which will offer equal advan*tage when hepatitis antigen is available from bacteria genetic*ally engineered to produce it.* Professor Zuckerman and his colleagues feel that they have *developed the* basis for what has become known as a second-generation vaccine, an im*proved* way of giving protection against a troublesome infection.

Source *Nature* March 5 (vol 290, p51) 1981.

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Lord Mayor of London

The following are some of the Lord Mayor's engagements this *week*:

Today: Attends Commonwealth Day observance service. Westminster Abbey, 3.
Tomorrow: Attends Bridewell service, St Bride's, Fleet Street, noon.
Wednesday: Attends Guardian Young Businessman of the Year award luncheon, Mansion House, 1; visits Pewter Trade Fair, Pewterers' Hall, 3.15.
Thursday: Attends presentation of first aid box for Lord Mayor's Rolls-Royce by the Commissioner of St John Ambulance Brigade, London (Prince of Wales's) District, Edwina Mountbatten House, 4.

Today's engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attend Commonwealth Day observance service, Westminster Abbey, 2.55, and Commonwealth Day reception, Marlborough House, 6.15.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron and trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, attends award scheme's 25th anniversary Commonwealth Ball, Grosvenor House Hotel, 8.20.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied *by Lady Diana Spencer, attends* recital in aid of the Royal Opera House Development Appeal, Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, 7.55.

Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, patron of Riding for the Disabled Association, attends luncheon, Saddlers' Hall, 1.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends preview of *Daily Mail* Ideal Home Exhibition, Earls Court, 3.

Chairman of the GLC attends Commonwealth Day reception, Marlborough House, 6.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
CAPTAINS: C. L. Wood, MOD as [illegible], July 10; J. G. H. O'Donnell, RNC Greenwich as Dir of Staff Grse. [illegible]
COMMANDERS: R. J. Lowndes, HMS [illegible] as OIC RN *Hydrog Sch*. [illegible] G. Rodgers, Staff of [illegible] Humphreys, [illegible] 10 Medway, Aug [illegible] J. W. [illegible]-Turner, MOD [illegible] *Naval Dir* [illegible] April 23; [illegible] Staff of FONAC [illegible] D. Wood, MOD [illegible] March 25; [illegible] H. S. Thomas, [illegible] FEARLESS as Su[illegible] Officer, [illegible] R. Jones, MOD with D of [illegible] July 21; [illegible]
CHAPLAINS: Rev A. G. B. Rowe, [illegible] June 1; Rev [illegible] Hillard, [illegible] June 8; [illegible] D. D. Pym, [illegible] March [illegible] Rev R. C. Sweet, [illegible] May [illegible] P. H. W. Chapman, Sqdn [illegible] 5th Frigate Sqdn, July 7.
Retirements
CAPTAIN: F. J. Edwards, May 25.
SURGEON CAPTAIN: J. H. Stewart, [illegible]
COMMANDER: D. L. Watson, April 23.

The Army
BRIGADIERS: W. G. Kilpatrick, RAM Coll as DA Gen Pract, Feb 23; R. J. Simpson, HQ1 (BR) Corps as DDPM, March 15; J. R. Varley, [illegible] (PE) (AE) as Brig (W) DD Trials and Eval, March 13.
COLONELS: D. E. Bishop, MOD as Col GS, March [illegible]; M. A. R. Eslick, BMH Hongkong as Cons Surg, March [illegible] J. I. Pocock, HQ DRAC as Col GS, March 11; D. H. D. Selwood, MOD [illegible] Col LS ALSO, March 8; D. G. Turner, D. A. Baghdad, March.
LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: J. D. Bell, RAMC, [illegible] Med Gp as OC and SMO Tidworth Area, Feb 27; A. A. Denison-Smith, GREN GDS, to GREN GDS as CO, March 9; A. T. S. H. Gooch, LG, Staff Coll Camberley as GSO1(DS), March 11; P. A. Little, 2 GR, 1/2 GR as CO, March [illegible]; P. T. Luther, RAMC, Bulford Garrison as SMO(GP Trg), Feb 24; P. V. Panton, QUEENS, HQ UKLF as GSO1(SD), March 10; J. C. Robinson, RRF(V), SERF(V) as CO, March 9; W. E. Wall, REME, HQ Wales as AA & QMG, March 9; C. A. G. Wells, 15 [illegible], Staff Coll as GSO1 JDSC, March 9.

Retirement
COLONEL R. H. Gilbertson, March 9.

Royal Air Force
AIR VICE-MARSHAL (ACTING RANK AIR MARSHAL): A. A. Morris, MOD as GE(RAF), March 7.
AIR COMMODORES: D. A. Saunders, MOD as D Sigs(Air), March 6; P. S. Collins, HQ 11 Gp as SASO, March 7.
WING COMMANDERS (ACTING RANK GROUP CAPTAIN): G. G. Thorburn, HOSTC as CEDO, March 9; A. R. Murray, RAF St Athan as SO Eng, March 9.
WING COMMANDERS: P. G. R. Yeo, RAFC Cranwell on DS, March 9; M. Moore, RAF Buchan as OC Ops, March 13; A. A. Weir, RAF Buchan as OC Admin Wg, March 13; S. M. Adams, RAF Stafford as OC Support Wg, March 9; T. P. Duggins, *MOD as Air* Eng 12, March 2; D. G. Marr, MOD Team Saudi Arabia, March 4; G. E. Breeson, HQ SHAPE as Asst Exec O, March 2; G. Acklam, HQ 18 Gp as Ops Cont, March 2; P. F. *Constable*, RAF Gutersloh as OC Ops, March 6; B. F. St Clair, The Hague as Air Attache, March 6.
SQUADRON LEADERS (ACTING RANK WING COMMANDER): A. McKay, HQ SHAPE as Chf Wpns Sect, March 6; J. L. Critchlow, MOD as Sigs 50(Air), March 2.

Medical and dental appointments
GROUP CAPTAINS (ACTING RANK AIR COMMODORE): P. J. Marbury, MOD as DHR(RAF), March [illegible]; M. H. Rogers, RAFC as PMO, March 13.
GROUP CAPTAINS: C. E. Simpson, RAF Hospital Wegburg as OC, March 2; J. S. Martin, RAF St Athan as Senior Dental Officer, Feb 23.

Parliamentary diary

House of Commons

Mar 2: Statement by Prime Minister on her visit to the United States. Greater *London Council (General Powers)* (No 2) Bill read the third time and passed. Contempt of Court Bill read a second time by 137 votes 25. Adjournment debate about byssinosis benefit and the case of *Mr Edward Penney*. House adjourned, 10.40 pm.

Mar 3: Statement on Northern Ireland prison protest. Dogs (Control) Bill read a first time. Government motion *in the independent strategic deterrent* carried by 316 votes to 248. Motion to approve Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications and Deemed Applications) Regulations carried by *128 votes to 91 and the similar Scot*tish regulations carried by 127 votes to 89. Adjournment debate about the decision of the Nature Conservancy Council to declare Crinan Moss in *Argyll a site of special scientific* interest. House adjourned, 12.34 am (Wednesday).

Mar 4: Consumer Credit Act (Amendment) Bill read a first time. Fisheries Bill passed the remaining stages. International Development Association (Sixth Replenishment) Interim Payments) Order agreed to. Adjournment debate about electoral arrangements *for County of* Humberside. House adjourned, 10.21 am (Thursday).

Mar 5: Statement on Civil Service dispute. British Railways Bill read the third time. Opposition motion on cuts in education rejected by 290 votes to 233 and Government amendment agreed to. Motions on defence and civil estimates agreed to and Consolidated Fund (No 2) Bill brought in and read a first time. Adjourn*ment debate about dyslexia*. House adjourned, 10.46 pm.

Mar 6: Zoo licensing (No 2) Bill, Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Bill, and Local Government *and Planning (Amendment)* Bill all read a second time. Debate on Small Firms Expansion (Inquiry) Bill second reading adjourned. Adjournment debate about treatment of late *Mr Matthew O'Hara in Pentonville* Prison. House adjourned, 3.1 pm.

House of Lords

March 2: *Statement about the Prime* Minister's visit to the United States. Supreme Court Bill passed the committee stage. Debate on European Communities Committee report on the environment. House adjourned, 9.6 pm.

March 3: Statement on Northern Ireland prisons protest. Redundancy Fund Bill read the third time and passed. Maximum Number of Judges Order agreed to. Water Bill read a second time. Industry Bill passed the committee stage. Trees (Replanting and Replacement) Bill passed the report stage. Pet Animals Act 1951 (Amendment) Bill read the third time and passed. Debate on privatization of certain local authority functions. House adjourned, 7.1 pm.

March 4: Debate on levels of unemployment in the regions. House adjourned, 10.58 pm.

March 5: London Transport (No 2) Bill read a second time. European Assembly Elections Bill passed the committee stage. European Communities (Medical, Dental and Nursing Professions) (Linguistic Knowledge) Order agreed to. Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill, report. House adjourned, 7.57 pm.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Timetable motion on Transport Bill. Motion on the Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order.
Tomorrow at 2.30: Budget. Motion on Local Government, Planning and Land (Northern Ireland) Order. Private Bill: British Railways (No 2) Bill, second reading.
Wednesday and Thursday at 2.30: Continuation of budget debate.
Friday at 9.30: Private Members' motion on the effects on London of the Government's economic, housing *and social policies*.

Select committees

Today: Education, science and arts. *Subject: Public and Private Funding of* the Arts. Witnesses: Lord Redcliffe-Maude (at 4.00 pm); Theatres National Council (at 5.00 pm). Room 5.

Public accounts. Subject: Measuring the effectiveness of regional incentives. Witnesses: Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary, Department of Industry; Dr R. G. L. McCrone, Secretary, Scottish *Economic Planning Department*; Mr T. P. Hughes, Permanent Secretary, Welsh Office. Room 16, 4 pm.

Wednesday: Foreign affairs. Subject: Foreign affairs matters. Witness: Lord *Carrington, Secretary of State Foreign* and Commonwealth Affairs. Room 15, 10 am.

Education, science and arts. Subject: Secondary School Curriculum and Examinations. Witnesses: Trades Union Congress (at 10.30 am); Confederation of British Industry (at 11.30 am). Room 8, 10.30 am.

Industry and Trade. Subject: Effects of the British Steel Corporation's corporate plan. Witness: Mr Ian Macgregor. Room 16, 10.45 am.

Public Accounts. Subject: Accounting arrangements for Magistrates Courts' Transactions. Witness: Sir Brian Cubbon, Permanent Under Secretary, Home Office. Room 16, 4 pm.

Employment. Subject: Work of the Department of Employment Group. Witnesses: The Training Services Division, Manpower Services Commission. Room 8, 4.30 pm.

European Legislation. Subject: Common Agricultural Policy Price Proposals 1981-82. Witness: Mr Peter Walker, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Room 15, 4.30 pm.

Social Services. Subject: Medical Education. Witnesses: British Medical Association. Room 21, 4.30 pm.

Thursday: Agriculture. Subject: Animal welfare in poultry, pig and veal calf production. Witnesses: Miss Janet Graham, Mrs Ann Stamper, and Mrs Mary Clark Glass. Room 16, 11 am.

Foreign Affairs: Overseas Development subcommittee. Subject: The Brandt report: Emergency programme. Witnesses: Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Overseas Development Administration Officials. Room 16, 4.30 pm.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Gas Levy Bill, second reading. House of Commons Members' Fund and Parliamentary Pensions Bill, second reading. Industry Bill, report. Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order and Local Government, Planning and Land (Northern Ireland) Order. Town and Country planning (*Fees for Appli*cations and Deemed Applications). Regulations and similar regulations for Scotland. Matrimonial Homes and Property Bill, second reading. Interpretation of Legislation Bill, second reading. Debate on European Communities Committee report on rights of residence.

Tomorrow at 2.30: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, report (first day). Carriage by Air Acts (Application of Provisions) (Third Amendment) Order.

Wednesday at 2.30: Debate on making British industry more competitive. Licensing (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Thursday at 3: Industry Bill, third reading. Wildlife and Countryside Bill, report (second day). Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill, third reading.

Select committees

Tomorrow: Science and Technology subcommittee I. Science and Government. Evidence from Lord Trend, 11 am.

European Communities subcommittee A (Finance, Economics and Regional Policy). Evidence on motor insurance liability from Insurance Brokers European Committee and Automobile Association, 4 pm.

Wednesday: European Committees subcommittee C (Education, Employment and Social Affairs). Evidence from management consultants on employee participation in asset formation, 11 am.

Thursday: European Communities subcommittee D (Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs). Evidence from NFU on farm prices for 1981-82, 10.30 am.

Consultancy in the recession

Martin Vandersteen, this year's chairman of the Management Consultants Association, reckons that the nature of the business has changed substantially since he came into it 20 years ago.

Time was when the management consultant was a creature from a strange planet, thinking and talking in a language quite different to that of the earth-bound industrialists and traders who employed his services when driven to it by dire necessity. Now, he says, clients are quite likely to use their management consultants as a pool of labour, highly trained but basically complementary to their existing staff, on which they can draw when the pressure is on.

That, he thinks, reflects the fact that clients have become very much more sophisticated in their approach, so that they now employ internally the sort of techniques that were peculiar to the management consultant 20 years ago. And, because companies are now reluctant to employ staff to cope with peak periods when it might be difficult and/or expensive to shed them when demand declines, it is a trend he can see accelerating.

Not that the old-style, trouble-shooting consultant has passed into oblivion. On the contrary, he is almost as much in demand as ever, though the nature of his client has changed. According to members of the Management Consultants Association, demand has held up surprisingly well over the past year, and while the number of consultants may have declined slightly—by perhaps 5 per cent, according to Mr Vandersteen—this is largely a result of under-recruiting. Certainly, he says, there has been nothing remotely like the shakeout of 1972.

The worst of the downturn has been overseas, reflecting the impact of a stronger pound. In the United Kingdom, of course, demand from manufacturing industry is in some respects well down, because attempts to improve production and marketing have been postponed, and large-scale construction projects that might otherwise have required appraisal have simply been shelved.

As against this, however, there is if anything a stronger demand for consultancy on ways to improve efficiency and cash flow, and data processing work is "resource bound"—that is there simply are not enough trained consultants to undertake the work on offer. Faced with rapidly deteriorating conditions, British management seems to have been converted wholesale to the view that more rapid access to more information cannot hinder and might help.

Demand for consultancy services from the few relatively healthy sectors of the British economy—oil and gas, the financial sector, and distribution and retailing—is holding up well.

Demand from central government is down, but from local government, curiously enough, it is well up—well up because the local authorities are desperate for methods of improving their financial controls, and of proving to their ratepayers that they are providing value for money.

So one way and another the management consultants seem to be coming through the recession in reasonable shape.

All of which is well enough for the consultants, but what about British industry? Mr Vandersteen admits that consultancy is a "maturing profession", no longer in a phase of rampant growth.

Within his own firm, some 60 per cent of work comes from clients whom the firm has served before, and another 20 per cent from companies to which employees of Arthur Andersen itself, or of one of its previous clients have moved. That can be taken as evidence that Arthur Andersen has many satisfied clients. It can also be taken as evidence that the firm is selling to the converted.

Likewise, the fact that members of the Management Consultants Association have had 95 of *The Times* top 100 companies among their clients may be impressive, but it raises a great many questions about the smaller companies that either never have used consultants at all or have used them and come away disillusioned by the experience.

It is partly with a view to assisting such potential clients that the Management Consultants Association has this year produced its first directory of member firms and their services to clients. This is large, highly informative, and available free from the MCA*.

In addition to an introductory section on client-consultant relations—covering such things as the association's code of professional practice, and some sensible and down to earth advice on selecting a consultant—it has a section describing the scope of members' services in general, and another giving a general description of each member firm (tends to be pretty anodyne but gives some idea of size and age), a list of the activities it undertakes (full and useful), and a selection of "illustrative engagements".

Of course there are also addresses, telephone numbers, the names of key personnel and an indication of the firm's overseas connexions. Anyone looking for a consultancy firm should be able to get a good idea of which firms are likely to be interested and interesting from this (failing which the association's executive director will point them in the direction of three or four of them).

One problem, of course, is that not every reputable consultancy firm is a member of the MCA (so far there are 25, and their ranks are swelling by about two a year). The membership qualifications are pretty ferocious (members must have been in practice for at least five years in the United Kingdom; the partners or directors must have had at least ten years' experience; the average length of service with the firm of the whole consulting staff must be at least three years, and at least 25 per cent of the staff must have served with the same firm for five years; and so on).

For this Mr Vandersteen apologizes not at all. It may deter the young hopefuls but it also keeps out the fly-by-nights; and the association's executive director runs an annual check to see that members continue to conform.

Given that it is the only association of established management consultants in the United Kingdom, the MCA's activities are still relatively modest in scope, though pursued with vigour once undertaken.

Mr Vandersteen would like to see it undertake conferences and seminars, set up collective training courses for members' staff, and publish a good many more publications. In consultancy terms this is known as "organization development and policy formation". But even for the consultants it has to remain a matter of "long term planning".

Adrienne Gleeson

*Management Consultants Association, 23-24 Cromwell Place, London SW7 2LG.



Mr Martin Vandersteen, chairman of the Management Consultants Association: providing a highly trained pool of labour.



Mr John Kapioltas, Sheraton's British-based vice-president and Denham Place, the hotel group's country headquarters.

How Sheraton found a new image in rural Denham

Like most modern hotel companies, Sheraton has its share of properties in which architectural ingenuity, be it expressed in a shopping precinct ice rink or a 22-floor waterfall, is considered to be at least as important as the quality of room service.

Perhaps the most interesting property, however, is a building which acts as the base for its European, African and Middle East operations. Built between 1688 and 1701, Denham Place is a grade one listed building owned by the Allied Breweries pension fund and standing in its own 12-acre grounds in the sleepy Buckinghamshire village of Denham.

Once owned by Harry Saltzman, the James Bond film maker who used it as a home from home for his stars, the house boasts its own chapel, a number of listed period friezes, and an ambience more in keeping with the life-style of the 1930s *bourgeoisie* than the day-to-day running of a big American corporation.

Mr John Kapioltas, the division's president, who is a native of Akron, Ohio, is known to interrupt business discussions in his palatial office to point out that a neighbour's horse has just wandered past the window.

Sheraton, of course, is owned by ITT, the huge American conglomerate with a reputation for hard dealing. The company is operating in one of the most hard-nosed and competitive areas of international business, and doing so from a location of evident luxury and peace, not exactly distant from London, but then again well off the beaten track in comparison to the location of its competitors.

One could be forgiven for asking: has Sheraton gone soft? The answer, apparently, is no. Idyllic the location may be, but it is all part of a carefully-tailored image which the company is cultivating to promote the expansion of its luxury hotel business.

Until less than a year ago, the European division was based in ITT's European offices in Brussels. It was part and parcel of a large and conventional commercial operation, and one in which notions of a move to the countryside were hardly likely to be countenanced out of purely aesthetic motives.

Mr Kapioltas, who has seen the division grow from a mere two hotels in 1968 to 40 today, with another 14 under construction or in the planning stages, says: "As the properties we were opening increased our image started to develop. We wanted a new headquarters which would project that image to our investors and the world at large. A mansion fitted that image."

Denham Place, which Sheraton has taken on a 25-year lease, fitted the bill. It was only 20 minutes from Heathrow airport, an important factor for an organization in which most of its executives complete many thousands of miles of travelling each year. And it was close enough to London for potential investors in Sheraton projects to visit. Indeed, the company's set programme for such visitors includes a tour of the mansion, where some 58 people work. Few fail to be impressed.

Moving a company from one country to another—Sheraton was originally based in Brussels—can cause difficulties even when the eventual destination is the pleasant Buckinghamshire countryside.

Sheraton encountered only one serious objection from its senior staff, and took 28 people with it to Denham.

"I think that 90 per cent of our people were very positive about the move", says Mr Kapioltas. "People realized what we were trying to do. Denham is impressive when our investors and principals arrive and I think it is in keeping with the type of hotels which we manage."

Staff costs were lower than they had been in Brussels, and the company was surprised by the calibre of employees they were able to recruit locally.

"One of the reasons might have been that a lot of capable white collar people would rather work with us here than travel into the West End. The day-to-day working environment is outstanding, and overall we have made considerable savings."

The quality of the decision-making has improved, "or I would like to think so", Mr Kapioltas adds swiftly. Staff relations have benefited and the group is happy with the way the local community has responded to the importation of a comparatively large number of jobs.

Local gardeners look after the grounds, the village pub is pleased with the extra business, and one Sheraton executive even found himself invited to a party at the home of Denham's most famous resident, the actor Sir John Mills.

It is too early for Sheraton to judge whether the move to the country was an unqualified success. Some parts of the building have yet to be fully converted to take their place in the building's new role.

Mr Kapioltas concedes that the decision was very much an experiment. "I do not know of anyone else who has done anything like it."

David Hewson

Carrying on in the tradition of Dick Whittington

Industry in the regions

City of London

The Square Mile at the heart of the City of London is the most famous centre of commercial activity in the world. Tacitus, in the first century of the Roman occupation, called it "a town of the highest repute and a busy emporium for trade and traders".

Today the City means the Bank of England, Lloyds, the Baltic Exchange, Billingsgate fish market, Smithfield, and the Guildhall, not to mention a megalopolis of £100 companies, legions of speculative investors, and the memory of one former Lord Mayor whose financial dealings would have landed him in court had he lived long enough for the legal process to take its course.

Folklore may have it that Britain's fortunes are truly on the wane when the ravens leave the Tower of London which stands a few hundred yards outside the City's boundaries. But a more down-to-earth assessment of the nation's sickness would surely be signs of collapse within the Square Mile, and those are mercifully absent at the moment.

The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which is based in the City exists to promote the business community of London and the South-east. It celebrates its centenary this year and intends to mark the event by sponsoring the City of London exhibition at the new £106m Barbican Centre next November.

Earl Jellicoe, the LCCI's president, says: "The events now being organized are positive acts of faith in the ability of Britain to recover its industrial and commercial muscle. Occasions of pride in past achievements are certainly on the centenary calendar, but the chamber's main purpose is to lend its fullest support to a concerted effort to help to set the country on a course of new prosperity."

One sign that the City remains healthy is likely to be evident during the exhibition. The EEC is to sponsor a conference between its ten member states and the 60 nations of the Africa, Caribbean, Pacific Group under the Lome Convention. The event will be one of the most important to be attracted to the Barbican Centre, the commercial side of the controversial bombsite development, and, with 200 delegates from 70 countries led by M Claude Cheysson, the EEC Commissioner for Development, is clearly something of a coup for the newly-opened venue.

Of the exhibition itself, Sir Ronald Gardner Thorpe, the present Lord Mayor, says that it will "demonstrate to industrial and business communities at home and abroad that the City retains its premier place as the business, commercial and financial centre of the world.

"It will serve to prove that this historic Square Mile's future is as bright as its past, and that London remains, in Dunbar's words of 1501, 'the flower of cities all'."

Quite how much of all this is absorbed by the toilers who pour out of the multiple exits of Bank underground station each morning and ease the City into life is a matter of some speculation. The workforce of the Square Mile has certainly shrunk in the past decade, depleted by the move of some companies to out-of-London locations and the defection of others to Westminster where rates and rentals used to be lower.

Another 1,000 jobs will disappear at the end of the year when the Billingsgate fish market shuts and moves down river to Tower Hamlets. In the past decade the workforce of the City has slimmed from the half million mark to around 360,000. Most commute to their workplaces, only 8,000 people actually live in the City, some 5,000 of them in the Barbican.

The biggest employer is the Bank of England with more than 3,000 workers followed by the City Corporation, the distinctly idiosyncratic local authority which, through an archaic system of aldermen, acts as an *alma mater* to all of the most important members of the area's ruling class.

Some 76 per cent of the working population earn their living in offices, compared with 58 per cent in central London, the largest category of these being clerical workers.

At the last census, in 1971, some 101,000 clerks, 37,000 typists and shorthand writers, 7,320 telephone operators, and 50 agricultural workers were counted. The proportions are not thought to have changed much except in two categories.

Textiles, which once employed 540 people, have slumped, and the fact that Fleet Street comes within the City borders means that the 1971 estimates for the workforce of the printing industry, which then included 5,600 journalists alone, are now distinctly on the high side.

Whether the workforce of the City will start to rise will depend upon the competitiveness of its rent and rates regime. When the corporation revalued in 1974, it was by such an extent that even some banks felt forced to give up their place in the traditional home of their business and move to new premises in Aldwych. Sentiment is unlikely to hold anyone to the Square Mile any more.

Of more immediate importance, as far as employment prospects are concerned, is the question of the City's tourist potential. The Barbican Centre will provide a new home for the Royal Shakespeare Company and the London Symphony Orchestra, as well as an art gallery, cinemas and restaurants. It may even make the unfortunate Barbican estate resemble something other than a ghost town after dark.

Billingsgate, when it becomes vacant, may be turned into a tourist shipping centre, though there are planning difficulties. And Tower Bridge, which the corporation runs, is to see a new development for the public between the twin towers.

From the point of view of continued prosperity, the Square Mile would seem to have little cause for worry. Its financial institutions may not be impervious to change, Lloyd's being an obvious example, but their qualities are still much in demand from the rest of the world.

Commodities, shipping, Euromarkets, bullion, all tend to rely on some aspect of the City's skills for their success. The vast majority of the country's visible earnings are generated in the small and crowded square which is bordered by boundaries dating from Roman and medieval times.

If ever there were a case for arguing that there are two Britains, the dealings of the City's affluent financial institutions must contrast vividly with the collapse of industry in the Midlands and elsewhere.

DH

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reassessing the value of coal

From the Master of Churchill College, Cambridge

Sir, This is the moment to press government, industry and commerce to use coal instead of oil and gas. There are many reasons—coal is cheaper than oil or gas per therm of heating value, we have plenty of it and so does the world, it is easier and more rewarding to export our oil (and gas) than our coal, alternatively such a policy permits us, if we wish, to reduce the rate of depletion of our oil and gas reserves.

But the most important reason stems from the conclusion of the World Energy Conference and many other bodies including our Department of Energy, which can be summed up in the statement that the world supply of petroleum will never again exceed that of 1979. Whether this is literally true or not, the peak of petroleum and natural gas production and its decline are clearly visible.

The Department of Energy has been dutifully trying to signal this fact to consumers by its pricing policy, and no doubt hoping that industry and others will conserve energy and switch to coal in plenty of time so that their future prosperity will not be prejudiced by energy problems.

Many of us need to wipe the cobwebs off our picture of the coal stokehold because modern methods make it possible to burn coal cleanly and with little labour. The drawbacks to the rapid substitution of coal for oil and gas appear to be lack of cash for the conversion of equipment and uncertainty about future regulations and supply. Payback periods are encouraging although not dramatic.

Government should look again at the possibility of giving financial help towards substitution, without having the taxpayer excessively reward those who will save money by switching to coal. The chemical industry and others who are complaining of competition from countries whose governments have an ostrich-like attitude to energy prices, or pr[...] *dirigisme*, should be especi[...] assisted to adapt to c[...] nevertheless.

Uncertainty might [...] lessened if the Governn[...] itself gave a lead. Just as [...] Property Services Agency [...] the DHSS showed what c[...] be done in energy conse[...]tion, they should now be [...] to give a similar lead in [...] use of coal. Local authori[...] should also be advised to [...]vert their own large users [...] to encourage others. To a [...] uncertainty about supply i[...] major task of the coal in[...]try, but gas and oil suppl[...] might be more flexible in t[...] attitude to the provision [...] emergency supplies.

Government energy polic[...] based on conservation, [...] and nuclear. It is time it be[...] to promote the use of [...] much more seriously.

Yours faithfully,
W. R. HAWTHORNE,
Churchill College,
Cambridge CB3 0DS.
March 4.

Rural small industries

From Mr Michael Dower

Sir, I am writing to express the concern of the eight member organizations of Rural Voice, an alliance of national organizations representing rural communities, about the future of the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA).

It is now 20 months since the Government commissioned, and over 12 months since it received the report of a review by civil servants of the work of the Development Commission and its subsidiary CoSIRA. This report has not been published, nor has there been any public consultation on the subject. Now, however, there is a strong rumour that CoSIRA is about to be merged into a larger unit, serving small businesses in both urban and rural areas, under the auspices not of the Development Commission and the Department of the Environment, but of the Department of Industry.

We quite understand that urban areas may need a service not unlike that which CoSIRA has so effectively given to the countryside. But we are extremely concerned that CoSIRA's specialist knowledge of the needs of rural businesses, and its close links to hundreds of such businesses on the ground, should not be weakened. Indeed, we believe the present economic difficulties, and the vital importance of small firms of all kinds to the health of the rural economy, call for the continued extension of CoSIRA's remit to cover shops, garages and other small enterprises in rural areas. Moreover, the close links between CoSIRA and the Development Commission need to be strengthened to their mutual benefit, rather than weakened.

For this reason, we should prefer to see CoSIRA retained in its present form with extended remit and resources. If, on the other hand, it is linked with a wider body, we urge that it remains semi-autonomous as a rural organization, with undiluted expertise and resources, a clear rural base and functioning as an executive arm of the Development Commission.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL DOWER,
Chairman, Rural Voice,
26 Bedford Square,
London, WC1B 3HU.
February 27.

The 'unfair' company car perk

From Mr R. T. W. Rumsey

Sir, A heading on the Man[...]ment page of your Busi[...] News section (March 2) re[...] "How fair is the comp[...] car?".

In truth it is completely [...] fair. How it ever came to [...] viewed as a perk comple[...] baffles me. The provision o[...] car together with tax, insura[...] and maintenance has alw[...] been seen as part of the sal[...] of the person to whom [...] vehicle has been allocated. [...] actual cash part of his salary [...] adjusted accordingly.

The true value of the pr[...]sion of the company car [...] never taken into considerat[...] when assessing the employe[...] pension and as a result a[...] unfortunate "enjoying" [...] benefit of this so-called p[...] has the certain knowledge t[...] upon retirement his pens[...] will be much less than he wo[...] have enjoyed had he recei[...] a salary which would h[...] allowed him to provide his [...] vehicle together with the a[...]ciated running costs.

By fostering the principle [...] providing a vehicle and atta[...]ing to this a curious status, [...] majority of the employers [...] Britain effectively reduce th[...] pension fund commitment [...] most certainly reduce the st[...]dard of living of their reti[...] employees. Ironically, the [...]duced pension falls upon th[...] employees who, during th[...] working life, were deemed to [...] of sufficient standing within [...] company to merit the use o[...] company vehicle. In ot[...] words, those that serve the co[...]pany best can expect to end [...] with only a limited recogniti[...] of their services.

Yours sincerely,
R. T. W. RUMSEY,
Eycotwood Cottage,
Rendcomb,
Nr Cirencester,
Gloucestershire.
March 3.

Micro-chip to make the beds and darn socks

From Mr A. F. Bromige

Sir, Iain Murray, in his article, "Gadetry without fears" (March 2), says that the micro-chip revolution promises to banish for ever the drudgery of domestic life and he seems surprised that a sample of housewives experienced some anxiety at being confronted with and being expected to operate a Prestel receiver, a home computer, a video-cassette recorder and a microwave oven.

It is not clear to this household operative how any of these gadgets reduce in the slightest, let alone banish, what some call drudgery. If the housewife could have seen some use in any of the four articles she was confronted with she would have been able to operate them as well as she can operate her cooker, washing machine or sewing machine.

If the manufacturer can design a micro-chip to make the beds and to rake out the dead ashes of the fire in the morning, to clean the windows and darn the socks, to cut the sandwiches for the children's lunch and to make the cake and to walk the vacuum cleaner over all the floors, then he will be on a winner; and Mr Murray, and the advertising agents he mentions, will find the housewife will learn to operate this wonder-machine in a flash. Until then, she is wise to ignore the gadget society that we seem to be becoming.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. BROMIGE,
West Holme,
4 The Ridgeway,
Friston,
East Sussex BN20 0EZ.

From Mrs Ann Brooke

Sir, I shall ever feel in Mr Iain Murray's debt for his article on "Gadgetry without fears" in today's (March 2) Business News, as I now know that I am not the only woman who suffers from "technofear".

Not only do I labour under this handicap, but I also cannot appreciate the need for the ever increasing complexity and multiplicity of functions of some of our household appliances.

I seem to recall that we welcomed the earlier models of clothes and dishwashing machines and of tumbler dryers because these had few programmes and no symbols. I wonder whether manufacturers appreciate that many women like to feel "in control" of their machines and like to adapt their functions to the family's needs and routines.

The advantage of a washing machine is that clothes can be soon back in use, but its advantage is reduced if one has to wait days to collect sufficient articles for a particular programme.

I have two electronic "marvels" in my kitchen — an oven and a tumbler dryer—on which the symbols are so unintelligible that I need to have their meanings stuck to adjoining cupboards. Perhaps a man's symbol is a woman's mystery.

The tumbler dryer is a great improvement on my old one, as it is much larger and is permanently vented to outside the house. However, it has a multiplicity of programmes (I think, eleven) of which I only use two — those for cottons and for manmade fibres. For the latter, I have a choice as to whether or not I wish to iron my shirts and bed linen — surely most of us do?

Similarly, I am puzzled by another programme. This blows cold air "to remove unpleasant smells" — can any really remain after a machine wash?

I hope these comments will help manufacturers increase their understanding of housewives' needs.

Yours truly,
ANN BROOKE,
Keasdon,
13 Central Avenue,
Eccleston Park,
Prescot,
Lancashire L34 2QL.
March 2.

Currency difficulties at the banks

From Mr Gordon C. Fenton

Sir, Is Mr J. H. H. White[...] (Letters, February 24) fu[...] aware of the freedom we n[...] enjoy in transferring fu[...] overseas due to the aboli[...] of exchange control? May [...] suggest he tries one of the [...]lowing methods in the fut[...] instead of walking the c[...] streets to no avail:

(1) post equivalent value [...] sterling bank notes;
(2) post his own sterling c[...]que;
(3) telephone request to [...] own bankers to transfer a st[...]ling or foreign currency va[...] by the international "Swi[...]" service. A transfer of this k[...] can be effected within [...] hours.

All the above methods [...] be effected from one's de[...] without complications, iden[...]cation or embarrassment. F[...]thermore, methods 1 and 2 [...] not involve charges and [...] Whiteley could have retain[...] the £3 he allocated [...] these.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. FENTON,
Alqueria la Rana,
Susans Lane,
Upchurch,
Sittingbourne,
Kent.

Buying a car from British Leyland

From Mr John L. Joly

Sir, Having heard so often of the difficulties facing British Leyland, I wonder whether the following exchange of telexes between them and my company might perhaps provide some clue to their problems?

Ours of 6.2.81: "Wishing to order Mini station wagon for our London office. Any chance available second half March. . . . ?"

On 11.2.81 we sent the following reminder and had an "on the spot" exchange.

Ours: "We would appreciate receiving your reply to our. . . ."

Theirs: "Do not know for whom this message intended. I presented other one to Middle East director in Solihull last time. If you can please give me a name I will try to get results for you."

Ours: "We wish to buy one of your cars in England. Would you please reply to our original telex."

Theirs: "This is Head Office here we have no cars. Please say what kind of car and I will pass. . . ."

Ours: "Our telex to you of 6.2.81 stated that we wish to purchase Mini station wagon."

Theirs: "OK, will look it out and send it to personal exports in our Piccadilly office. They will assist I'm sure."

BL telexed us on 12.2.81: "Your telex has been referred to us at the tax-free sales centre in Piccadilly. Do you wish to purchase this vehicle for export . . . ?"

We replied on 13.2.81: "As stated in our original telex, we want it for our London office. Please could you quite price and delivery . . . ?"

BL replied on 13.2.81: "Have passed inquiry to '— and Co'. Please advise address London office for contact."

We replied on 14.2.81 that the office was not yet manned but would be as from March 16. We gave the address and telephone number, together with the name of our solicitors for reference purposes. We added: "But please place order for car now and advise cost and colour."

On 16.2.81 a different BL office telexed us: "Re Mini station wagon—London office. Please clarify whether unit is required in UK (RHD or LHD) or in Lebanon. Can then quote delivery/price. Please reply by return . . ."

On 17.2.81 we replied: "As already explained, the Mini station wagon we want is for our London office therefo[...] RHD."

On 19.2.81 we received fro[...] BL: "Re your inquiry rig[...] hand drive Mini estate for d[...]livery in UK please advi[...] whether vehicle to be retain[...] in UK or to be used [...] temporary basis and then e[...]ported . . ."; and we replie[...] "Cannot see how we can ma[...] it any clearer that we wa[...] right hand drive Mini esta[...] for delivery and use by Lond[...] office in UK. There is no que[...]tion of exporting it. Do ho[...] that this is now clear. . . ."

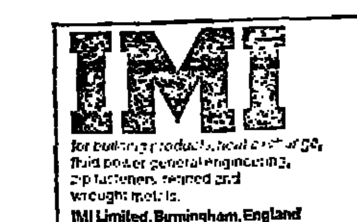
More than two weeks ha[...] passed, considerable telex e[...]penses have been incurred an[...] BL have come very close [...] losing a sale. I wonder how lo[...] it would have taken to secur[...] a Renault 5 or a Fiat 127? Th[...] telex exchange is still going o[...]

In my father's day employe[...] in this company who had no[...] British cars were frowne[...] upon; nowadays British car[...] are rarely seen. Sadly, on[...] understands only too easil[...] why.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN L. JOLY,
Henry Heald and Company
SAL,
Beirut,
Lebanon.

Black days for white goods, page 19

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS



- **Stock markets** FT Ind 489.1 FT Gilts 68.36
- **Sterling** $2.1940 Index 98.7
- **Dollar** Index 100.8 DM2.1325
- **Gold** $468.50
- **Money** 3-mth sterling 12⅝-12½ 3-mth Euro-$ 16⅞-16⅝ 6-mth Euro-$ 16⅞-16⅝

Friday's close

IN BRIEF

SE puts its defence on fair trading inquiry

The Stock Exchange's 200-page justification of its Rule Book is to be presented to the Office of Fair Trading today. But after two years of discussions and a year to compile its case before the Restrictive Practices Court, the presentation of evidence falls on a day when the Civil Service strike could mean there is no one to receive it.

The Stock Exchange was referred to the OFT in autumn 1978. It has been drawing up a defence of 181 rules which the OFT believes violate the 1973 Fair Trading Act. The case arose automatically from this legislation, which required all groups which sell services subject to defined terms and conditions to either abandon them or demonstrate in court that they are in the public interest.

It is estimated that the OFT evaluation will take two years, the case will some to court about 1983. The cost to exchange members, which sarted at around £500,000, has now risen to £1.5m, but at present there are no plans for a special levy.

N Sea licences to be awarded

Awards of licences for oil and gas exploration and production on the United Kingdom continental shelf in the North Sea will be made this week by Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, after a record number of applications.

The first awards under the seventh round of licensing were made before Christmas on blocks picked by oil companies. Those granted this week are on blocks specified by the Department of Energy.

Perkins pay claim

Shop stewards representing 6,000 production workers at the Perkins diesel engine plant in Peterborough have submitted a pay claim for an extra 20 per cent. The company recently trimmed its workforce by 1,300.

Fewer French cars

French car registrations in February were 17.6 per cent below their level of a year before at 134,353 and were 2 per cent below the January figure of 137,065, according to provisional data released by the French car manufacturers' association.

Hopes of tin pact

Tin producer and consumer countries meet in Geneva today to try working out a new international tin agreement. The last round in December ended with a compromise accepted by all participants except the United States.

Stabilization moves

Governors of the western central banks will seek ways of stabilizing the money markets because of the way interest rates have jumped in western Europe when they meet in Basle today.

Herbert profit hopes

Tooling Investments, the Birmingham company which acquired the Alfred Herbert name and Coventry manufacturing facilities from the National Enterprise Board, its former owners, said the company was still making slight losses but would begin to show a profit by the end of its financial year on July 31.

Talbot inquiry call

Mr James Milne, general secretary of the Scottish TUC, has written to Mr Bob Hughes, chairman of the Parliamentary select committee on Scottish Affairs, demanding a one-day emergency inquiry into the shutdown of Talbot's Linwood car plant and its implications for the west of Scotland.

Opposition by President Reagan casts doubt on Mexico summit

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 8

A summit meeting of leaders of developed and developing nations, planned to take place in Mexico in June, may be postponed. President Reagan is not believed to be enthusiastic about this conference.

Informed sources stated that the President was not happy about the practice of annual economic summits concluding with a series of highly specific agreements. He would rather see such summits focus more on general issues.

The Reagan admiinstration may also play down the significance of the meeting of leaders from the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Canada, Japan and Italy, to take place in July in Ottawa.

Officials said that the Administration had already reached positions on a number of key international economic policy issues. It will support large-scale borrowing in the markets by the International Monetary Fund, and it has assured European officials that it will give strong support to the International Energy Agency.

However, officials gave a warning that the Administration was still in the early stages of formulating its foreign economic policy. This alone could undermine the usefulness of the Mexico and Canada summits.

The officials said that a White House decision had not been taken on whether President Reagan would attend the Mexican summit. "There has been a lot of talk in Europe about deferring this meeting," said one.

This meeting is intended to launch a new North-South dialogue and it is difficult to see how this can be achieved without United States involvement. A call for such a summit was made in the report on North-South issues published by the international commission chaired by Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor.

But development aid issues are likely to be at the forefront of the agenda at the Ottawa meeting, at the insistence of the Canadian hosts. The Administration believes that the main question has to be the retycling of petrodollars to developing oil - importing nations.

The Reagan administration is disturbed by what it sees as an increasing tendency by the World Bank to provide loans for short-term balance of payments purposes. It believes developing countries must take tough domestic policy actions to ensure that they can obtain loans in the private markets, and meet firm loan conditions imposed by the IMF.

The Administration would meet its funding commitments to the World Bank group, but it would stretch out its payments schedule, officials said. They added that the American Government has not rejected the idea of an energy bank affiliate for the World Bank, as proposed by Mr Robert McNamara, the bank's president, but had simply told the bank it needed more time to consider this idea.

Trade is another area that will feature prominently at the Ottawa summit and officials said there should be no doubt of the Reagan Administration's resolve to secure open international markets. The Government's position would become clear when the cabinet took key decisions on Japanese car imports in the next few weeks.

President Reagan's Government does not believe in formulating a detailed currency strategy. It believes that a strong dollar is beneficial in the fight against inflation and it will work hard to strengthen the currency.

Cooperation with Nippon company may forge link similar to BL's relationship with Honda

British Steel seeks technical help from Japan

From Peter Hazelhurst in Tokyo and David Hewson in London

Nippon Steel, the world's largest and most efficient producer of steel, has joined the growing number of successful Japanese companies which have been asked to help in halting the decline of British industry.

The company has been asked to supply Britain with advanced technology so that the ailing British Steel Corporation can reconstruct three or four of its mills.

The forging of new links between Nippon Steel and the BSC came amid reports that BL, the government-backed car company, could become more closely involved with Honda, the Japanese car maker which will coproduce a new car at BL's Cowley plant later this year.

A Nippon Steel spokesman said in Japan yesterday that a team of experts led by Mr Masumi Aihara, the company's adviser, had completed a study of the plight of British Steel.

He said that Nippon Steel had been asked to provide Britain with advanced technology at the request of Mr Ian MacGregor, the corporation's chairman.

Nihon Keizai Shimbun, the Japanese economic journal, said yesterday that the move "may help improve Japan's relations with Britain and ease frictions caused by Japanese car exports".

The spokesman for Nippon Steel refused to explain how the company would assist the BSC, but said it would be in the field of providing advanced technology which "will increase BSC's yield and decrease production costs".

Nippon Steel is expected to present the corporation with a detailed report of how the British steel industry can be reconstructed. Japanese engineers, who visited British Steel plants unannounced a month ago, are expected to return to Britain in the near future, and the corporation is also expected to send a delegation of engineers to Japan.

plants helped Japan to surpass the United States last year as the non-Communist world's largest producer of steel. Nippon's engineering division has Nippon's engineering division has already provided 35 countries, including the United States, with its advanced technology, and helped other nations such as China to establish modern integrated steel mills.

A spokesman for British Steel said yesterday: "We have on several occasions called on the Japanese for technical assistance. The last example was for a blast furnace on Teesside.

"The Japanese are the acknowledged world leaders on large blast furnace technology."

Contrary to initial reports from Japan, any advice given by Nippon Steel would be incorporated into the BSC's existing rationalization plan. No new installations are envisaged. It remains to be seen how significant the links between Nippon Steel and the BSC become.

While British Steel hopes that they are seen as purely informal discussions of mutual benefit at the moment, such discussions have led to concrete cooperation plans in the past.

The talks which led to the BL/Honda deal to produce a medium-size saloon at Cowley, to be called the Triumph Acclaim, arose from similar links.

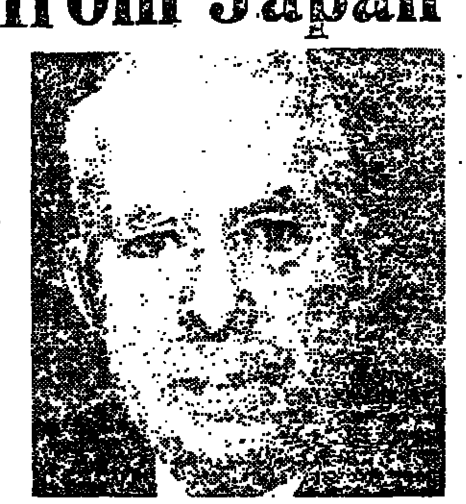
Recent reports in Britain and Japan that Honda wanted to strengthen its links with the British car maker met with a muted response from BL yesterday. A company spokesman said: "We are talking to a lot of people about a lot of things all the time, but a lot of them will never see the light of day."

Honda has denied in Tokyo that it was interested in taking an equity stake in BL but it may build BL's highly successful Mini Metro in Japan. Technical talks between the two companies about BL producing another Honda-designed car under licence in Britain have also taken place.

But the Japanese car company's willingness to talk about its desire for closer links with BL has been met with a degree of surprise within the British company. Honda, like most Japanese car manufacturers, has been involved in talks internationally about cooperative projects in an attempt to head off mounting criticism about the domination of world markets by the Japanese.

Mitsubishi is planning an engine plant in Indonesia: Pakistan is to assemble Suzuki cars; a number of Japanese manufacturers have interests in America; and Nissan, the maker of Datsun cars, wants to open a manufacturing plant in Britain.

Mr Kiyoshi Kawashima, Honda's president, has been quoted in Japan confirming that the company was seeking to extend its links with BL. Honda also said that it was acting in response to approaches from the British Government, though the Department of Industry has denied that it knew of plans for closer collaboration.


Mr Ian MacGregor: asked for Japan's advanced technology.

Forecast of 3.25 million out of work by 1983

By David Blake
Economics Editor

A grim warning that there will be no significant recovery until 1983, with more than 3.25 million unemployed by the next general election, comes today from the Cambridge Econometrics Forecasting Group. It predicts that nothing in the Budget will help manufacturing or unemployment significantly in the longer term.

The quarterly Midland Bank Review also gives a warning that any attempt to "turn the screw" again on control of the money supply would produce another drop in profitability and would make unemployment rise still further.

Although conceding that the Government has had some success in improving the productive efficiency of the economy, Midland Bays says that this will not produce a recovery unless backed up by extra demand.

A further indication of the problems facing Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, in shaping his Budget is the call for an increase in the standard rate of income tax by James Capel, the City stockbrokers.

It predicts that unless this is done, inflation will start to rise in the near future. It expects some upturn in the economy later in the year and also suggests that the Government's resolve on pay in the public sector has shown signs of weakening.

The proposal for raising taxes is strongly attacked by Cambridge Econometrics, which is separate from Mr Wynn Godley's Cambridge Economic Policy Group. Cambridge Econometrics predicts that raising standard income tax rates to 33 per cent would add 100,000 to unemployment totals and cut national output by 1 per cent.

It forecasts that the Chancellor will be able to achieve his plans for controlling the money supply with a higher level of public borrowing than envisaged in the medium term financial strategy published last year.

Cambridge Econometrics is scathing about reported plans to uprate personal tax allowances by less than the full value of inflation, pointing out that this means more bureaucracy and more people being caught in the tax net.

It expects little help for industry from easing of such things as National Insurance contributions by employers. The main issue facing the Government is reducing the exchange rate, it argues. A drop in the value of the pound would push up profits and save jobs.

Cambridge Econometrics predicts that the prospect of an election will force the Government to cut taxes over the rest of its lifetime.

Office of Fair Trading checks on wire maker

By John Huxley

Twil, the Sheffield-based wire maker in which the British Steel Corporation has a 20 per cent stake, has been asked by the Office of Fair Trading to supply information about aspects of its business.

The inquiries have been initiated under the terms of restrictive practices legislation, and Twil has been given 28 days in which to reply.

Through its subsidiaries, such as Tinsley Wire, Twil claims to have about 40 per cent of the United Kingdom nail market and a share of between 70 and 100 per cent of every other wire product, such as netting, field fence, barbed wire and chain link. The principal end user is the farming community.

It has a wire-drawing capacity of more than 350,000 tonnes, most of which is made into galvanized wire and fencing products. At the end of last year it had a United Kingdom workforce of about 5,000.

It is a private company and the state-owned British Steel Corporation has a 20 per cent stake, but commands 25 per cent of the voting power. The balance is held by Bridon and the Bekaert Group, of Belgium.

Mr Dilwen Scrivens, general manager of Tinsley Wire, confirmed that a letter had been received from the Office of Fair Trading, but he declined to disclose its precise content.

"It would be very premature to comment. We are not entirely sure what this is about. It may be a false alarm", he said.

Last year, the group announced that it was cutting the prices of its barbed wire in a move to halt the advance of cheap imports from the eastern block Comecon countries. Twil is a customer of British Steel, although it has been engaged in negotiations recently to import nails.

It sells its products through a number of distributors, and it is understood that the OFT's inquiries relate to the group's relations on marketing policy with these. Twil would not confirm or deny this.

The Office of Fair Trading also refused to comment.

Video war looming on cassette sales

By David Hewson

A pre-recorded video war is likely to break out in the High Streets in the next fortnight.

Thorn-EMI is to launch a £500,000 television and press promotion in 10 days' time to announce the formation of video libraries and sales outlets operating out of Woolworth, Boots, W. H. Smith and John Menzies, as well as main television rental outlets.

It will offer such feature film titles as The Deer Hunter, Murder on the Orient Express, Death on the Nile and Citizen Kane, as well as Thames Television programmes like The World at War and Botanic Man.

Thron-TMI aims to become market leader in a rapidly growing sector, but it is likely to face intense competition from a number of other companies trying to widen the base of video feature film sales, including Warner Home Video, a division of WEA Records, and CIC Video UK.

Most pre-recorded video sales in the past have been from specialist stores, many of them involving a high proportion of soft-porn cassettes.

But the market is expected to more than double to around £50m this year, with the growth in sales of video cassette recorders and the increasing number of outlets for recorded tapes costing anything from £29, for an aging Carry On film, to £40 for an up-to-date feature. Rental costs vary wildly and will depend upon individual retailers.

There are around 600,000 video recorders in the United Kingdom and the number is expected to increase to about one million by the end of the year.

Mr Nicholas Bingham, marketing division managing director of Thorn-EMI Video Programme, said that the television campaign which it was about to launch would not normally be justified by the relatively small number of video owners. But the company was trying to increase the size of the market overall as well as its share in it.

"We would not normally advertise on television to get to this size of market, but we feel that there is a very low awareness of video cassettes. We estimate the market for pre-recorded cassettes in 1981 could be about 1.5 million cassettes sold through retail outlets."

Canals board facing £100m repairs bill

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Britain's canal system is faced with huge contraction unless the British Waterways Board secures additional funds to carry out long overdue maintenance work which could cost more than £100m.

Over the next few weeks, the board is expected to start a campaign to persuade the Government to increase the amount of cash made available to the board to meet its statutory duties. Arrears of maintenance have been building up for several years, affecting bridges, tunnels, reservoirs and the canals themselves.

The Government's Water Bill, which received its third reading last month, will provide for an increase in the borrowing ceiling for the waterways board from £20m to £35m.

The first £5m will be authorized when the Bill receives Royal Assent, and the balance will be allocated on the order of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment. But the increase in the borrowing ceiling will only allow the board, which is responsible for maintaining about 2,000 miles of inland waterways, to raise cash to meet its capital investment requirements.

For many years the board's income has been insufficient to cover its costs. It receives an annual grant from the Exchequer to cover the deficit, which on average has amounted to about 60 per cent of its total revenue costs.

Sir Frank Price, chairman, said over the weekend that the board faced tremendous problems in finding the money required to ensure that the system was restored to a safe condition.

Failure to carry out essential and urgent maintenance work, he said, would put at risk the pleasure of thousands of people as well as many jobs and investment geared to the inland waterway network.


Sir Frank Price: the board faces tremendous problems.

Work set to start on £300m cracker

By Our Industrial Staff

Work will start in the next few days on the £300m ethylene cracker for Esso Chemicals at Mossmorran, Fife. It will use ethane from North Sea oil fields as a feedstock and is due to be completed in 1985.

At the weekend, Esso announced that Tractor Shovels (Contracts) of Inverkeithing, Fife, a subsidiary of the London and Northern Group, will be responsible for site preparation.

The contract, awarded by Lummus, the main contractor on the Mossmorran project, will continue for nine months and provide employment for up to 140 people.

The cracker project, which is one of the largest construction tasks undertaken in Britain in recent years, is crucial for several sectors of British industry

Over the coming months large orders for hardware for the plant will be placed, and British process plant manufacturers have been working hard to ensure that most of them stay in the United Kingdom.

Esso has always said that its ordering will be done according to long-standing criteria of price, quality and delivery, but it has indicated that it would value the shorter lines of communications derived from working with British manufacturers.

The project is also an important test of the British large-sites industry to build on time and to cost. In recent years the industry has earned a reputation for failing on both counts.

The ICI-BP Chemicals joint venture cracker at Wilton on Teesside, for example, was completed two years behind schedule and at almost twice its original estimate at £200m.

The ethane cracker to produce ethylene, a "building block" widely used in the chemicals industry, is part of a much larger complex, incorporating a joint Esso and Shell gas separation plant.

Chemical industry observers believe the ultimate on-site investment could be as much as £1,000m,

Company sponsorship cash trebles

By Derek Harris

Company spending on sponsorship of sporting events and the arts was an estimated £50m in 1979, more than three times the amount spent three years before.

Such figures have been hard to come by in the past but the estimate comes from the English Tourist Board which has conducted research to help those looking for sponsorship.

Around 85 per cent of spending at present goes on sporting events as companies try to raise their prestige and have their names shown on television. This appeals particularly to tobacco companies because of a ban on direct advertising.

The remaining 15 per cent of spending benefits mainly the arts, although the English Tourist Board expects increasing spending in this field to account for 20 per cent of total sponsorship within a couple of years. Other spending goes on "social sponsorship" for projects such as the relief of unemployment or the provision of social benefits in deprived areas.

The board's latest research showed that last year Benson & Hedges, the Gallaher tobacco company, spent £80,000. Sun Alliance the insurance company spent £70,000, Martini spent £54,000 on golf sponsorship National Westminster Bank spent £250,000 and Cornhill Insurance spent £200,000 supporting cricket.

In 1979 the biggest spending had been on horse racing, the two top spenders being De Beers in diamonds (£65,000) and Benson & Hedges (£57,000).

The board found that some brewery companies had come up with their own form of sponsorship. Sports and leisure facilities had been built in exchange for an exclusive franchise in providing drinks facilities.

The Give and Take of Sponsorship (English Tourist Board; £2).

Socal bid for Amax tests administration's attitude to conglomerates

President's anti-trust policy goes on trial

Standard Oil Company of California's bid for Amax Incorporated could be a test case of the Reagan Administration's anti-trust policies. The bid, worth around $4,000m (£1,800m), is the largest of its kind in corporate history anywhere in the world.

Articulate opponents of big business marriages, such as Mr Ralph Nader and Senator Edward Kennedy, are bound to oppose the Socal bid for Amax and provide some good stories, even if their influence proves to be small. All the early indications are that America's new Republican leaders are so enthusiastic about allowing free enterprise its head that the word "anti-trust" does not even appear in their dictionary.

But the degree of business concentration in America is astounding, and even the free market men in charge of anti-trust issues in the United States cannot be entirely oblivious of this. Insight into the scale of concentration is provided in two volumes on the subject recently published by the senate committee on governmental affairs.

The report focused on 100 leading companies in assorted key business sectors, including finance, manufacturing and retailing. On the investment front, it found that J. P. Morgan, parent company of the Morgan Guaranty Trust, was by far the largest shareholder in the 100, with holdings valued at $18,500m (£8,400m) at the end of 1979.

The second largest investor was the Capital Group, a Californian-based holding company, with $7,700m of shares, and just behind came Citicorp with $7,600m and the Prudential Insurance Company with $7,400m. One aspect of concentration was shareholdings in competitors, with Morgan, for example, the biggest single shareholder in Citicorp and Bank of America, and the third largest in Manufacturers Hanover Trust.

Power need not be measured simply in terms of shareholdings. The congressional committee went to great lengths to study the interlocking directorships between the top 100 companies. In scores of cases, the directors of the biggest banks meet each other on the boards of industrial companies. But directors of rival manufacturing companies also meet on outside corporate boards.

For example, Exxon directors must be constantly bumping into Mobil directors, as both sit on such boards as those of Procter & Gamble, AT & T, Chemical Bank, Citicorp, Caterpillar Tractor and Equitable Life. It is also interesting to note that Chase Manhattan Bank is the largest shareholder in Exxon, second largest in Socal, third largest in Standard Oil of Indiana and fourth largest in Mobil.

Some of the big investors are not interested only in obtaining shares in rival companies, but also in suppliers to companies in which they have a big stake. The Capital Group, for example, is the sixth largest shareholder in General Motors, second largest in Ford Motor Company and third largest in International Harvester. It is also the largest single shareholder in US Steel, Bethlehem Steel and Armco Steel.

Of course, it is not just investments and joint directorships that link firms together. The Peat, Marwick Mitchell accounting firm does the books of each of the top three rival banks in New York—Citicorp, Chase and Manufacturers Hanover.

Meanwhile, Price Waterhouse audits the next three biggest New York banks—Chemical, Morgan and Bankers Trust. Incidentally, Price Waterhouse does the ascounts of a quarter of the top 100 companies reviewed by the congressional committee.

Senator Kennedy sought not long ago to introduce legislation limiting the development of conglomerates. His Bill would have made it impossible, for example, for Socal to acquire Amax.

But the Bill failed, and the attitudes of the new administration may inspire more takeovers, more conglomerates and still more business concentration.

Full encouragement to Socal in its Amax bid by Washington's anti-trust lawyers would spark a new tidal wave of takeover bids and battles.

Even if Amax does rebuff Socal and their marriage is not consummated, brokers on Wall Street believe that a flood of conglomerate developments is likely, encouraged by the government's attitudes. They also believe the oil companies will be at the forefront of this movement, flush with funds to finance corporate purchases thanks to the profits resulting directly from President Reagan's decision to decontrol oil prices.

Frank Vogl
in Washington

Brewery tenants complain of tied soft drink sales

By Our Commercial Editor

Tenants of Samuel Smith of Tadcaster, the Yorkshire independent brewer, have added another area to the investigations being made into brewers' trading practices by Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

The tenants have complained of being tied to selling ancillary drinks lines under penalty of having their rents raised.

The Samuel Smith tenants were so angry at this that they have rejected the brewery's new rents review. They have written to the Office of Fair Trading pointing out that under one option a tenant had to carry only the brewery's soft drink line and follow brewery-recommended prices for bitter.

A second option involved fewer conditions, with a free choice in soft drinks but a higher rent.

The OFT is expected to look closely at the tying of soft drink sales. The principle of brewers selling predominantly their own beer in their tenanted houses has never been an issue in the trade.

But tenants have complained in the past at being restricted to buying their spirits and wines supplies and soft drinks from the brewery, often at prices higher than even in the local supermarket.

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.95	1.87	Norway Kr	12.50	11.85
Austria Sch	35.10	32.90	Portugal Esc	126.00	120.00
Belgium Fr	81.75	77.75	South Africa Rd	2.05	1.91
Canada $	2.70	2.61	Spain Pta	193.50	184.50
Denmark Kr	15.40	14.60	Sweden Kr	10.65	10.10
Finland Mkk	9.45	8.95	Switzerland Fr	4.46	4.23
France Fr	11.40	10.90	USA $	2.24	2.17
Germany DM	4.95	4.62	Yugoslavia Dnr	82.00	76.50
Greece Dr	116.00	110.00			
Hongkong $	12.10	11.50			
Ireland Pt	1.33	1.27			
Italy Lir	2340.00	2230.00			
Japan Yen	482.00	456.00			
Netherlands Gld	5.36	5.10			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

MANAGEMENT

Edited by Andrew Goodrick-Clarke

Consultancy in the recession

Martin Vandersteen, this year's chairman of the Management Consultants Association, reckons that the nature of the business has changed substantially since he came into it 20 years ago.

Time was when the management consultant was a creature from a strange planet, thinking and talking in a language quite different to that of the earthbound industrialists and traders who employed his services when driven to it by dire necessity. Now, he says, clients are quite likely to use their management consultants as a pool of labour, *highly* trained but basically complementary to their existing staff, on which they can draw when the pressure is on.

That, he thinks, reflects the fact that clients have become very much more sophisticated in their approach, so that they now employ internally the sort of techniques that were peculiar to the *management* consultant 20 years ago. And, because companies are now reluctant to employ staff to cope with peak periods when it might be difficult and/or expensive to shed them when demand declines, it is a trend he can see accelerating.

Not that the old-style, troubleshooting consultant has passed into oblivion. On the contrary, he is almost as much in demand as ever, though the nature of his client has changed. According to members of the Management Consultants Association, demand has *held up surprisingly* well over the past year, and while the number of consultants may have declined slightly—by perhaps 5 per cent, according to Mr Vandersteen—this is largely a result of under-recruiting. Certainly, he says, there has been nothing remotely like the shakeout of 1972.

The worst of the downturn has been overseas, reflecting the impact of a stronger pound. In the United Kingdom, of course, demand from manufacturing industry is in some respects well down, because attempts to improve production and marketing have been postponed, and large-scale construction projects that might otherwise have required appraisal have simply been shelved.

As *against this, however*, there is if anything a stronger demand for consultancy on ways to improve efficiency and cash flow, and data processing work is "resource bound"—that is there simply are not enough trained consultants to undertake the work on offer. Faced with rapidly deteriorating conditions, British management seems to have been converted wholesale to the view that more rapid access to more information cannot hinder and might help.

Demand for consultancy services from the few relatively healthy sectors of the British economy—oil and gas, the financial sector, and distribution and retailing—is holding up well.

Demand from central government is down, but from local government, curiously enough, it is well up—well up because the local authorities are desperate for methods of improving their financial controls, and of proving to their ratepayers that they are providing value for money.

So one way and another the management consultants seem to be coming through the recession in reasonable shape.

All of which is well enough for the consultants, but what about British industry? Mr Vandersteen admits that consultancy is a "maturing profession", no longer in a phase of rampant growth.

Within his own firm, some 60 per cent of work comes from clients whom the firm has served before, and another 20 per cent from companies to which employees of Arthur Andersen itself, or of one of its previous clients have moved. That can be taken as evidence that Arthur Andersen has many satisfied clients. It can also be taken as evidence that the firm is selling to the converted.

Likewise, the fact that members of the Management Consultants Association have had 95 of *The Times* top 100 companies among their clients may *be impressive, but it raises a* great many questions about the smaller companies that either never have used consultants at all or have used them and come away disillusioned by the experience.

It is partly with a view to assisting such potential clients that the Management Consultants Association has this year produced its first directory of member firms and their services to clients. This is large, highly informative, and available free from the MCA*.

In addition to an introductory section on client-consultant relations—covering such things as the association's code of professional practice, and some sensible and down to earth advice on selecting a consultant—it has a section describing the scope of members' services in general, and another giving a general description of each member firm (tends to be pretty anodyne but gives some idea of size and age), a list of the activities it undertakes (full and useful), and a selection of "illustrative engagements".

Of course there are also addresses, telephone numbers, the names of key personnel and an indication of the firm's overseas connexions. Anyone looking for a consultancy firm should be able to get a good idea of which firms are likely to be interested and interesting from this (failing which the association's executive director will point them in the direction of three or four of them).

One problem, of course, is that not every reputable consultancy firm is a member of the MCA (so far there are 25, and their ranks are swelling by about two a year). The membership qualifications are pretty ferocious (members must have been in practice for at least five years in the United Kingdom; the partners or directors must have had at least ten years' experience; the average length of service with the firm of the whole consulting staff must be at least three years, and at least 25 per cent of the staff must have served with the same firm for five years; and so on).

For this Mr Vandersteen apologizes not at all. It may deter the young hopefuls but it also keeps out the fly-by-nights; and the association's executive director runs an annual check to see that members continue to conform.

Given that it is the only association of established management consultants in the United Kingdom, the MCA's activities are still relatively modest in scope, though pursued with vigour once undertaken.

Mr Vandersteen would like to see it undertake conferences and seminars, set up collective training courses for members' staff, and publish a good many more publications. In consultancy terms this is known as "organization development and policy formation". But even for the consultants it has to remain a matter of "long term planning".

Adrienne Gleeson

*Management Consultants Association, 23-24 Cromwell Place, London SW7 2LG.



Mr Martin Vandersteen, chairman of the Management Consultants Association : providing a highly trained pool of labour.





Mr John Kapioltas, Sheraton's British-based vice-president and Denham Place, the hotel group's country headquarters.

How Sheraton found a new image in rural Denham

Like most modern hotel companies, Sheraton has its share of properties in which architectural ingenuity, be it expressed in a shopping precinct ice rink or a 22-floor waterfall, is considered to be at least as important as the quality of room service.

Perhaps the most interesting property, however, is a building which acts as the base for its European, African and Middle East operations. Built between 1688 and 1701, Denham Place is a grade one listed building owned by the Allied Breweries pension fund and standing in its own 12-acre grounds in the sleepy Buckinghamshire village of Denham.

Once owned by Harry Saltzman, the James Bond film maker who used it as a home from home for his stars, the house boasts its own chapel, a number of listed period friezes, and an ambience more in keeping with the lifestyle of the 1930s *bourgeoisie* than the day-to-day running of a big American corporation.

Mr John Kapioltas, the division's president, who is a native of Akron, Ohio, is known to interrupt business discussions in his palatial office to point out that a neighbour's horse has just wandered past the window.

Sheraton, of course, is owned by ITT, the huge American conglomerate with a reputation for hard dealing. The company is operating in *one of the most hard-nosed* and competitive areas of international business, and doing so from a location of evident luxury and peace, not exactly distant from London, but then again well off the beaten track in comparison to the location of its competitors.

One could be forgiven for asking: has Sheraton gone *soft? The answer, apparently*, is no. Idyllic the location may be, but it is all part of a carefully-tailored image which the company is cultivating to promote the expansion of its luxury hotel business.

Until less than a year ago, the European division was based in ITT's European offices in Brussels. It was part and parcel of a large and conventional commercial operation, and one in which notions of a move to the countryside were hardly likely to be countenanced out of purely aesthetic motives.

Mr Kapioltas, who has seen the division grow from a mere two hotels in 1968 to 40 today, with another 14 under construction or in the planning stages, says: "As the properties *we were opening increased* our image started to develop. We wanted a new headquarters which would project that image to our investors and the world at large. A mansion fitted that image."

Denham Place, which Sheraton has taken on a 25-year lease, fitted the bill. It was only 20 minutes from Heathrow air*port, an important factor for* an organization in which most of its executives complete many thousands of miles of travelling each year. And it was close enough to London for potential investors in Sheraton projects to visit. Indeed, the company's set programme for such visitors includes a tour of the mansion, where some 58 people work. Few fail to be impressed.

Moving a company from one country to another—Sheraton was originally based in Brussels—can cause difficulties even when the eventual destination is the pleasant Buckinghamshire countryside.

Sheraton encountered only one serious objection from its senior staff, and took 28 people with it to Denham.

"I *think that* 90 *per cent of* our people were very positive about the move", says Mr Kapioltas. "People realized what we were trying to do. Denham is impressive when our investors and principals arrive and I think it is in keeping with the type of hotels which we manage."

Staff costs were lower than *they had been in* Brussels, and the company was surprised by the calibre of employees they were able to recruit locally.

"One of the reasons might have been that a lot of capable white *collar people would* rather work with us here than travel into the West End. The day-to-day working environment is outstanding, and overall we have made considerable savings."

The quality of the decision-making has improved, "or I would like to think so", Mr Kapioltas adds swiftly. Staff relations have benefited and the group is happy with the way the local community has responded to the importation of a comparatively large number of jobs.

Local gardeners look after *the grounds, the village pub is* pleased with the extra business, and one Sheraton executive even found himself invited to a party at the home of Denham's most famous resident, the actor Sir John Mills.

It is too early for Sheraton to judge whether the move to the country was an unqualified success. Some parts of the building have yet to be fully converted to take their place in the building's new role.

Mr Kapioltas concedes that the decision was very much an experiment. "I do not know of anyone else who has done anything like it."

David Hewson

Carrying on in the tradition of Dick Whittington

Industry in the regions

City of London

The Square Mile at the heart of the City of London is the most famous centre of commercial activity in the world. Tacitus, in the first century of the Roman occupation, called it "a town of the highest repute and a busy emporium for trade and traders".

Today the City means the Bank of England, Lloyds, the Baltic Exchange, Billingsgate fish market, Smithfield, and the Guildhall, not to mention a megalopolis of £100 companies, legions of speculative investors, and the memory of one former Lord Mayor whose financial dealings would have landed him in court had he lived long enough for the legal process to take its course.

Folklore may have it that Britain's fortunes are truly on the wane when the ravens leave the *Tower of London which* stands a few hundred yards outside the City's boundaries. But a more down-to-earth assessment of the nation's sickness would surely be signs of collapse within the Square Mile, and those are mercifully absent at the moment.

The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which is based in the City exists to promote the business community of London and the South-east. It celebrates its centenary this year and intends to *mark the event by sponsoring* the City of London exhibition at the new £106m Barbican Centre next November.

Earl Jellicoe, the LCCI's president, says: "The events now being organized are positive acts of faith in the ability of Britain to recover its industrial and commercial muscle. Occasions of pride in past achievements are certainly on the centenary calendar, but the *chamber's main purpose is to* lend its fullest support to a concerted effort to help to set the country on a course of new prosperity."

One sign that the City remains healthy is likely to be evident during the exhibition. The EEC is to sponsor a conference between its ten member states and the 60 nations of the Africa, Caribbean, Pacific Group under the Lome Convention. The event will be one of the most important to be attracted to the Barbican Centre, the commercial side of the *controversial bombsite development*, and, with 200 delegates from 70 countries led by M Claude Cheysson, the EEC Commissioner for Development, is clearly something of a coup for the newly-opened venue.

Of the exhibition itself, Sir Ronald Gardner Thorpe, the present Lord Mayor, says that it will "demonstrate to industrial and business communities at home and abroad that the City retains its premier place as the business, commercial and financial centre of the world."

"It will serve to prove that this historic Square Mile's future is as bright as its past, and that London remains, in Dunbar's words of 1501, 'the flower of cities all'."

Quite how much of all this is absorbed by the toilers who pour out of the multiple exits of Bank underground station each morning and ease the City into life is a matter of some speculation. The workforce of the Square Mile has certainly shrunk in the past decade, depleted by the move of some companies to out-of-London locations and the defection of others to Westminster where rates and rentals used to be lower.

Another 1,000 jobs will disappear at the end of the year when the Billingsgate fish market shuts and moves down river to Tower Hamlets. In the past decade the workforce of the City has slimmed from the half million mark to around 360,000. Most commute to their workplaces, only 8,000 people actually live in the City, some 5,000 of them in the Barbican.

The biggest employer is the Bank of England with more than 3,000 workers followed by the City Corporation, the distinctly idiosyncratic local authority which, through an archaic system of aldermen, acts as an *alma mater* to all of the most important members of the area's ruling class.

Some 76 per cent of the working population earn their living in offices, compared with 58 per cent in central London, the largest category of these being clerical workers.

At the last census, in 1971, some 101,000 clerks, 37,000 typists and shorthand writers, 7,320 telephone operators, and 50 agricultural workers were counted. The proportions are not thought to have changed much except in two categories.

Textiles, which once employed 540 people, have slumped, and the fact that Fleet Street comes within the City borders means that the 1971 estimates for the workforce of the printing industry, which then included 5,600 *journalists alone*, are *now* distinctly on the high side.

Whether the workforce of the City will start to rise will depend upon the competitiveness of its rent and rates regime. When the corporation revalued in 1974, it was by such an extent that even some banks felt forced to give up their place in the traditional home of *their business and move to new* premises in Aldwych. Sentiment is unlikely to hold anyone to the Square Mile any more.

Of more immediate importance, as far as employment prospects are concerned, is the question of the City's tourist potential. The Barbican Centre will provide a new home for the Royal Shakespeare Company and the London Symphony Orchestra, as well as an art gallery, cinemas and restaurants. It may even make the unfortunate Barbican estate resemble something other than a ghost town after dark.

Billingsgate, when it becomes vacant, may be turned into a tourist shipping centre, though there are planning difficulties. And Tower Bridge, which the corporation runs, is to see a *new development for the public* between the twin towers.

From the point of view of continued prosperity, the Square Mile would seem to have little cause for worry. Its financial institutions may not be impervious to change, Lloyd's being an obvious example, but their qualities are still much in demand from the rest of the world.

Commodities, shipping, Euromarkets, bullion, all tend to rely on some aspect of the City's skills for their success. The vast majority of the *country's visible earnings are* generated in the small and crowded square which is bordered by boundaries dating from Roman and medieval times.

If ever there were a case for arguing that there are two Britains, the dealings of the City's affluent financial institutions must contrast vividly with the collapse of industry in the Midlands and elsewhere.

DH

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reassessing the value of coal

From the Master of Churchill College, Cambridge

Sir, This is the moment to press government, industry and commerce to use coal instead of oil and gas. There are many reasons—coal is cheaper than oil or gas per therm of heating value, we have plenty of it and so does the world, it is easier and more rewarding to export our oil (and gas) than our coal, alternatively such a policy permits us, if we wish, to reduce the rate of depletion of our oil and gas reserves.

But the most important reason stems from the conclusion of the World Energy Conference and many other bodies including our Department of Energy, which can be summed up in the statement that the world supply of petroleum will never again *exceed that of* 1979. Whether this is literally true or not, the peak of petroleum and natural gas production and its decline are clearly visible.

The Department of Energy has been dutifully trying to signal this fact to consumers by its pricing policy, and no doubt hoping that industry and others will conserve energy and switch to *coal in plenty of* time so that their future prosperity will not be prejudiced by energy problems.

Many of us need to wipe the *cobwebs off our picture of the* coal stokehold, because modern methods make it possible to burn coal cleanly and with little labour. The drawbacks to the rapid substitution of coal for oil and gas appear to be lack of cash for the conversion of equipment and uncertainty about future regulations and supply. Payback periods are *encouraging* although not dramatic.

Government should look again at the possibility of giving financial help towards substitution, without having the taxpayer excessively reward those who will save money by switching to coal. The chemical industry and others who are complaining of competition from countries whose *governments* have an ostrich-like attitude to energy prices, or prefer *dirigisme*, should be especially assisted to adapt to coal, nevertheless.

Uncertainty might be lessened if the Government itself gave a lead. Just as the Property Services Agency and the DHSS showed what could be done in energy *conservation*, they should now be seen to give a similar lead in the use of coal. Local authorities should also be advised to convert *their own* large users and to encourage others. To allay uncertainty about supply is a major task of the coal industry, but gas and oil suppliers might be more flexible in their attitude to the provision of emergency supplies.

Government energy policy is based on conservation, coal and nuclear. It is time it began to promote the use of coal much more seriously.

Yours faithfully,
W. R. HAWTHORNE,
Churchill College,
Cambridge CB3 0DS.
March 4.

Rural small industries

From Mr Michael Dower

Sir, I am writing to express the concern of the eight member organizations of Rural Voice, an alliance of national organizations representing rural communities, about the future of the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA).

It is *now* 20 months since the Government commissioned, and over 12 months since it received the report of a review by civil servants of the work of the Development Commission and *its subsidiary* CoSIRA. This report has not been published, nor has there been any public consultation on the subject. Now, however, there is a strong rumour that CoSIRA is about to *be merged into a larger unit*, serving small businesses in both urban and rural areas, under the auspices not of the Development Commission and the Department of the Environment, but of the Department of Industry.

We quite understand that urban areas may need a service not unlike that which CoSIRA has so effectively given to the countryside. But we are extremely concerned that CoSIRA's specialist knowledge of the needs of rural businesses, and its close links to hundreds of such businesses on the ground, should not be weakened. Indeed, we believe the *present* economic difficulties, and the vital importance of small firms of all kinds to the health of the rural economy, call for the continued extension of CoSIRA's remit to cover shops, *garages* and other *small* enterprises in rural areas. Moreover, the close links between CoSIRA and the Development Commission need to be strengthened to their mutual benefit, rather than weakened.

For this reason, we should prefer to see CoSIRA retained in its present form with extended remit and resources. If, on the other hand, it is linked with a wider body, we urge that it remains semi-autonomous as a rural organization, with undiluted expertise and resources, a clear rural base and *functioning as an executive* arm of the Development Commission.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL DOWER,
Chairman, Rural Voice,
26 Bedford Square,
London, WC1B 3HU.
February 27.

Micro-chip to make the beds and darn socks

From Mr A. F. Bromige

Sir, Iain Murray, in his article, "Gadetry without fears" (March 2), says that the microchip revolution promises to *banish for ever the drudgery of* domestic life and he seems surprised that a sample of housewives experienced some anxiety at being confronted with and being expected to operate a Prestel receiver, a home computer, a video-cassette recorder and a microwave oven.

It is not clear to this household operative how any of these gadgets reduce in the slightest, let alone banish, what some call drudgery. If the housewife could have seen some use in any of the four articles she was confronted with she would have been able to operate them as well as she can operate her cooker, washing machine or sewing machine.

If the manufacturer can design a micro-chip to make the beds and to rake out the dead ashes of the fire in the morning, to clean the windows and darn the socks, to cut the sandwiches for the children's lunch and to make the cake and to walk the vacuum cleaner over all the floors, then he will be on a winner; and Mr Murray, and the advertising agents he mentions, will find the housewife will learn to operate this wonder-machine in a flash. Until then, she is wise to ignore the gadget society that we seem to be becoming.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. BROMIGE,
West Holme,
4 The Ridgeway,
Friston,
East Sussex BN20 0EZ.

From Mrs Ann Brooke

Sir, I shall ever feel in Mr Iain *Murray's* debt for his article on "Gadgetry without fears" in today's (March 2) Business News, as I now know that I am not the only woman who suffers from "technofear".

Not only do I labour under this handicap, but I also cannot appreciate the need for the ever increasing complexity and multiplicity of functions of some of our household appliances.

I seem to recall that we welcomed the earlier models of clothes and dishwashing machines and of tumbler dryers because these had few programmes and no symbols. I wonder whether manufacturers appreciate that many women like to feel "in control" of their machines and like to adapt their functions to the family's needs and routines.

The advantage of a washing machine is that clothes can be soon back in use, but its advantage is reduced if one has to wait days to collect sufficient articles for a particular programme.

I have two electronic "marvels" in my kitchen — an oven and a tumbler dryer—on which the symbols are so unintelligible that I need to have their meanings stuck to adjoining cupboards. Perhaps a man's symbol is a woman's mystery.

The tumbler dryer is a great improvement on my old one, as it is much larger and is permanently vented to outside the house. However, it has a multiplicity of programmes (I think, eleven) of which I only use two — those for cottons and for manmade fibres. For the latter, I have a choice as to whether or not I wish to iron my shirts and *bed* linen — surely most of us do?

Similarly, I am puzzled by another programme. This blows cold air "to remove unpleasant smells" — can any really remain after a machine wash?

I hope these comments will help manufacturers increase their understanding of housewives' needs.

Yours truly,
ANN BROOKE,
Keasdon,
13 Central Avenue,
Eccleston Park,
Prescot,
Lancashire L34 2QL.
March 2.

The 'unfair' company car perk

From Mr R. T. W. Rumsey

Sir, A heading on the Management page of your Business News section (March 2) reads "How fair is the company car?".

In truth it is completely unfair. How it ever came *to be* viewed as a perk completely baffles me. The provision of a car together with tax, insurance and maintenance has always been seen as part of the salary of the person to whom the vehicle has been allocated. The actual cash part of his salary is adjusted accordingly.

The true value of the provi*sion of the company* car is never taken into consideration when assessing the employee's pension and as a result any unfortunate "enjoying" the benefit of this so-called perk has the certain knowledge that upon retirement his pension will be much less than he would have enjoyed had he received a salary which would have allowed him to provide his own vehicle together with the associated running costs.

By fostering the principle of providing a vehicle and attaching to this a curious status, the majority of the employers in Britain effectively reduce their pension fund commitment and most certainly reduce the standard of living of their retired employees. Ironically, the reduced pension falls upon those employees who, during their working life, were deemed to be of sufficient standing within the company to merit the use of a company vehicle. In other words, those that serve the company best can expect to end up with only a limited recognition of their services.

Yours sincerely,
R. T. W. RUMSEY,
Eycotwood Cottage,
Rendcomb,
Nr. Cirencester,
Gloucestershire.
March 3.

Currency difficulties at the banks

From Mr Gordon C. Fenton

Sir, Is Mr J. H. H. Whiteley (*Letters, February 24*) fully aware of the freedom we now enjoy in transferring funds overseas due to the abolition of exchange control? May I suggest he tries one of the following methods in the future instead of walking the city streets to no avail:

(1) post equivalent value of sterling bank notes;
(2) *post his own sterling* cheque;
(3) telephone request to his own bankers to transfer a sterling or foreign currency value by the international "Swift" service. A transfer of this kind can be effected within 24 hours.

All the above methods can be effected from one's desk, *without complications, identification* or embarrassment. Furthermore, methods 1 and 2 do not involve charges and Mr Whiteley could have retained the £3 he allocated for these.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. FENTON,
Alqueria la Rana,
Susans Lane,
Upchurch,
Sittingbourne,
Kent.

Buying a car from British Leyland

From Mr John L. Joly

Sir, Having heard so often of the difficulties facing British Leyland, I wonder whether the following exchange of telexes *between* them and my company might perhaps provide some clue to their problems?

Ours of 6.2.81: "Wishing to order Mini station wagon for our London office. Any chance available second half March. . . ?"

On 11.2.81 we sent the following reminder and had an "on the spot" exchange.

Ours: "We would appreciate receiving your reply to our. . ."

Theirs: "Do not know for whom this message intended. I presented other one to Middle East director in Solihull last time. If you can please give me a name I will try to get results for you."

Ours: "We wish to buy one of your cars in England. Would you please reply to our original telex."

Theirs: "This is Head Office here we have no cars. Please say what kind of car and I will pass. . ."

Ours: "*Our telex to you of* 6.2.81 stated that we wish to purchase Mini station wagon."

Theirs: "OK, will look it out and send it to personal exports in our Piccadilly office. They will assist I'm sure."

BL telexed us on 12.2.81: "Your telex has been referred to us at the tax-free sales centre in *Piccadilly*. Do you wish to purchase this vehicle for export. . .?".

We replied on 13.2.81: "As stated in our original telex, we want it for our London office. Please could you quite price and delivery. . .?"

BL replied on 13.2.81: "Have passed inquiry to '— and Co'. Please advise address London office for contact."

We replied on 14.2.81 that the office was not yet manned but would be as from March 16. We gave the address and telephone number, together *with the name of our solicitors* for reference purposes. We added: "But please place order for car now and advise cost and colour."

On 16.2.81 a different BL office telexed us: "Re Mini station wagon—London office. Please clarify whether unit is required in UK (RHD or LHD) or in Lebanon. Can then quote *delivery/price. Please reply* by return. . ."

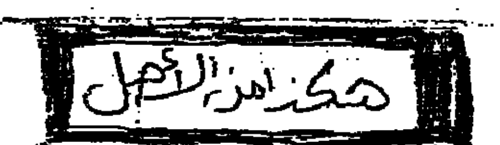
On 17.2.81 we replied: "As already explained, the Mini station wagon we want is for our London office therefore RHD."

On 19.2.81 we received from BL: "Re your inquiry right hand drive Mini estate for delivery in UK please advise whether vehicle to be retained in UK or to be used on temporary basis and then exported. . ."; and we replied: "Cannot see how we can make it any clearer that we want right hand drive Mini estate for delivery and use by London office in UK. There is no question of exporting it. Do hope that this is now clear. . ."

More than two weeks have passed, considerable telex expenses have been incurred and BL have come very close to losing a sale. I wonder how long it would have taken to secure a Renault 5 or a Fiat 127? The telex exchange is still going on.

In my father's day employees in this company who had non-British cars were frowned upon; nowadays British cars are rarely seen. Sadly, one understands only too easily why.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN L. JOLY,
Henry Heald and Company SAL,
Beirut,
Lebanon.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

A Chancellor in hostile territory

Who would a Chancellor of the Exchequer be? Rarely can a Chancellor have found himself so friendless in the run-up to a Budget; and it is not as if Sir Geoffrey Howe can have high hopes of winning many new friends tomorrow, whatever he says. For this, inevitably, is going to be a Budget of compromise. It is also going to be a Budget in which the Chancellor and his scriptwriters will require all their presentational skills. On the one hand, the Chancellor must make the case for a more flexible approach to the conduct of policy. On the other, he must show that this is consistent with the Government's continuing determination to pursue a medium-term disinflationary policy to its ultimate conclusion.

The Chancellor's task is a formidable one. When one looks back over the past 18 months the tale is not reassuring: failure to control the broader monetary aggregates as planned; serious doubts over the correct interpretation to be placed on the behaviour of the various monetary measures; the larger-than-forecast fall in output and employment; the uneven spread of this contraction; the failure to get on top of public spending and borrowing.

Against this, one can note the greater mood of realism in at least some areas of wage bargaining, together with the streamlining and restructuring of some sectors of industry. Above all, the Government would probably claim that it is starting to win the battle against inflation.

Overall, however, there can be no doubt that the balance sheet to date is not particularly attractive. The Chancellor must have asked himself a hundred times over: why?

In spite of the falling level of pay settlements, it remains true that "expectations" have not, generally speaking, altered either as sharply or as rapidly as the numbers originally set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy required.

The more serious problem, perhaps, is that the Government itself has failed to deliver on its own territory. It was faced



Sir Geoffrey Howe will present his third Budget tomorrow.

with considerable inherited difficulties on the public sector pay front, but it still cannot claim to have done well. Indeed, it cannot claim to have done especially well in any area of public spending; and it did, of course, grossly underestimate the size of the problem posed by the nationalized industries.

In short, the assumptions on which year one of the MTFS were based have proved grossly over-optimistic. Fiscal policy has been out of line with monetary policy, and monetary policy itself rather too ambitious. As a result, interest rates and the exchange rate have borne too much of the regulatory burden, a fact that has tended to aggravate the situation further.

That the high exchange rate has helped on the inflationary front is not, of course, to be sneezed at. But it now leaves the Government with the additional problem of how to sustain the downward path of inflation given that the exchange rate has already slipped back and could well fall back further.

So what does the Chancellor do? Clearly, a savage Budget is not on. It is accepted that it would lack credibility and almost certainly prove counter-productive in the medium term, even if it hastened a fall in interest rates in the short term.

Likewise, a generally (as opposed to selectively) reflationary Budget should be a non-starter. There is already little enough margin for the Government if it wishes to avoid increasing the risk of renewed inflationary pressures later this year. The underlying rate of inflation has been in single figures for some months now, yet shows no sign of dropping further.

The Chancellor, it seems (taking in the measures proposed last November), will produce a moderately deflationary package. But if that appears a realistic compromise, it will not in itself make the conduct of policy noticeably easier.

The expectation of reduced interest rates has already lowered sterling in the foreign exchange markets. It would be foolhardy to expect that there will be no inflationary trade-off for any higher output secured as a result of this.

Secondly, whatever the Chancellor says about monetary control, it appears that the approach in practice is going to be pragmatic. In other words, the Chancellor will have to take some delicate decisions on interest rate policy as the year wears on and, as far as markets are concerned, the proof of the pudding will have to be in the eating.

Finally, the Government still faces an enormous task in bringing public spending under better control, particularly public sector pay. Until it does that, the real burden of taxation is likely to go on increasing — or the Prime Minister will finally have to consider more radical methods of tackling the problem.

Monopoly policy

Case by case

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission will be working overtime in the next few months to deal with the sudden rush of merger references which have landed at its doors. Within a couple of weeks Lonrho's bid for the rest of House of Fraser has been referred followed by the proposed take-over of Davy Corporation by the Texas energy group Enserch Corporation. Then followed the decision to refer both the European Ferries approach for Sealink and the merger of the two cross-channel hovercraft companies.

The two latter references are fairly clear-cut. Both give rise to obvious worries about the effect on competition and meet the market share criteria laid down under the 1973 Fair Trading Act. The Lonrho/Fraser and Davy/Enserch mergers are different. Both meet the asset criteria under the Act but on the face of it, neither would lead to any concentration of market power which might operate against the public interest; instead, the arguments touch on the much more subjective and less tangible areas concerning public interest—the part of merger policy which is inevitably least predictable and most controversial.

A complaint of industrialists is that when the debate enters this realm—and because of the flexible and non-legalistic approach to mergers in the United Kingdom it frequently does—nobody knows quite where they are.

Mr Biffen's policy—forgetting about the more bizarre area of newspapers mergers—does not seem to differ from that if his predecessor at the Department of Trade, Mr Nott, who said last summer that the Government planned a tougher and more sceptical approach to mergers and he held out a particular warning for conglomerate mergers. However, he rejected the more precise and formal approach to merger policy suggested by the last Government's Green Paper. As he demonstrated by the decision not to refer Thorn's bid for EMI, he favoured a case-by-case approach.

The advantages of such a flexible policy are self-evident in a country where promoting competitiveness in the domestic market is not necessarily compatible with promoting international competitiveness. And a further disadvantage of precise, statutory criteria is that it can only encourage the kind of meaningless financial manoeuvring which Lonrho has been indulging in to try and escape an investigation of its bid for The Observer.

How much mergers should be encouraged or discouraged is a different matter. But the crucial point here is that under the existing law the monopolies commission is only asked to decide whether a merger is likely to operate against the public interest. This does not always make it easy to prevent pointless, empire-building agglomerations.

Survival is success in itself. Hugh Clayton reports on an industry under extreme pressure

Why food prices have marked time

Food is one of the best bargains in the country, thanks to the recession. The position of the mid-1970s, in which food led the inflationary spiral, has been reversed. Food is now making one of the most important contributions to holding down the rate of increase in the cost of living.

Despite steep increases in the prices of the fuel and machinery with which food is produced and distributed, many edible groceries cost little more than a year ago. A few items are slightly cheaper than in March 1980.

Not surprisingly, the state of food prices receives much less public scrutiny than it did five years. Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, occasionally congratulates himself, but quietly.

He said in answer to a recent parliamentary question from a Conservative: "He will be pleased to know that as a result of the static position in common agricultural policy prices during the past two years, for which this Government has responsibility, food prices have increased far less than prices in general, and should continue to do so."

Mr Walker's comment will bring no comfort to the thousands of employees at food factories and on farms whose jobs have disappeared.

It will surprise the statisticians at Mr Walker's ministry whose latest survey of household food consumption shows that sales of many items have fallen, and that shoppers are "trading down" by purchasing cheaper varieties of the same product. Nobody but Mr Walker will believe the CAP is the prime cause of static food prices.

The minister need not fear being pressed too hard by the Opposition, since in the mid-1970s it made the containing of food price inflation one of its main priorities. Yet the Labour government's panoply of subsidies and

AVERAGE SHOP PRICES (p/lb)

	1980	1981
Leg of pork	94	93½
Frozen chicken ..	49½	49½
Tin of red salmon (half-size)	90	89
Potatoes	7	6
Cooking apples ..	18	16½
Oranges	22	22
Cheap margarine ..	15½	15½
Instant coffee (100g)	93½	99½
Tin of tomatoes (15oz)	13	12½

Sources: Tomatoes—trade estimate, others—Department of Employment mid-January survey.

price control never achieved anything like the results now secured by the brutal operations of the free market.

The trade union movement is also maintaining a wise silence at the moment. With the lone exception of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, it called in the mid-1970s for a lower rate of food inflation. That has now been achieved in a spectacular fashion, but only at the expense of the jobs of thousands of trade union members.

The food industry shares all of the difficulties experienced by other business sectors in the recession. Yet there is probably no other large sector of British industry where the recession has manifested itself quite so extensively through price cuts as well as through redundancies. The food industry has a few local difficulties which have helped to worsen its plight.

Last year, as gardeners will recall, was a good one for home produce. Since an increasing proportion of home gardeners keep their crops in domestic freezers for the winter, the commercial distributors of processed fruit and vegetables have lost sales.

The food processing and retailing industries were suffering from overcapacity before the recession took effect. They were, therefore, ill-equipped to meet a period in which the disposable incomes of many of their customers were cut through unemployment and short-time working. The following timetable shows how the recession has affected the food sector in the past six months.

October 1980: Marks & Spencer announces first profit cut for 25 years; 1,000 redundancies announced by chocolate and frozen food companies. November: United Biscuits to shed 1,700 jobs over two years: 500 redundancies announced at bakeries in Glasgow: Tesco scraps staff Christmas bonus for first time in 20 years. December: 400 jobs to go at Lockwoods canning factory.

January, 1981: Imperial Group announces 430 redundancies at Smedley canning factory: Tate & Lyle decides to close Liverpool cane sugar refinery with loss of 1,600 jobs. February: job cuts announced by British Sugar Corporation, Buxted Poultry, Kraft Foods, Metal Box. March: Fisons announces 1980 loss on fertilizers; Lockwoods calls in a receiver.

Whatever Mr Walker may say about the common agricultural policy, unemployment has had a greater effect in holding food prices back. The sectors of the food business which have prospered have been those which sell the cheapest and the dearest products.

The food business is always vulnerable to falls in household income. When the money coming into a family drops, the family still has to pay its rent, rates and fuel bills. It usually decides to keep its television set and its car, and if it smokes, it usually smokes on. Cuts often descend on food.

At the upper end of the income scale, there is still a buoyant market for expensive prepared dishes that enable the wealthy householder to offer attractive food for a high outlay, but with little time spent on preparation.

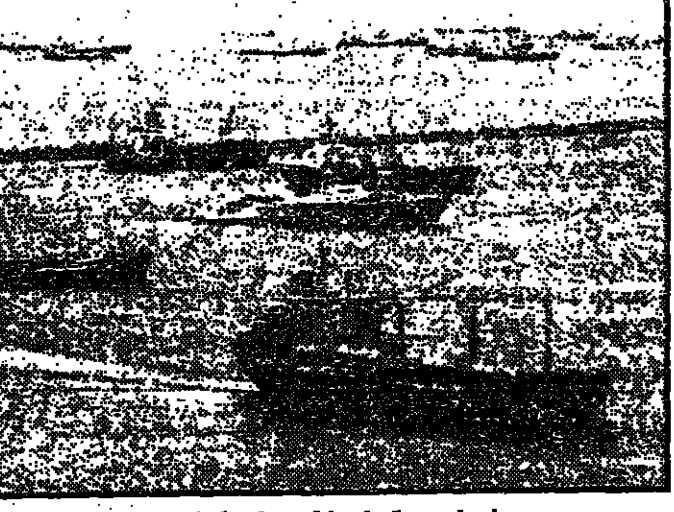
Crisps are doing well because they are cheap and, in sufficient quantity, filling. Frozen suprême de volaille is doing well, because it enables the affluent family to enjoy a complicated dish without taking the trouble of preparing it.

It is in the middle income range and in the wide mainstream of the grocery market that the recession has taken its greatest toll. The best customers of the food industry are not the wealthy families with executive incomes who live in semi-rural commuter belts.

They spend a lot, but they are liable to have jobs in which they expend little energy. They also tend to be loyal customers of health food shops, which are not widely supplied by the largest companies in the food industry.

The favourite family of the food industry is one in what is, or used to be, a company town. The family will have a father with some years to go to retirement and three strapping sons, each of whom will earn a wage locally and contribute some of it to the family housekeeping money. The family's collective appetite will be gigantic, and the mother will take pride in satisfying it with immense joints on Sundays, with kippers, pies, stews and chops through the week.

That is the type of family at which the food industry aims much of its advertising. It is also the type worst hit by the recession. It now uses margarine instead of butter. It no longer eats bacon and eggs for breakfast. Instead of filling its lunch boxes with beef sandwiches and fruit pies, it must now rely on instant pot noodles and biscuits



Bribery was used to help clear ships in Lagos harbour.

The corruption that grips Nigeria

Business can be expensive in Nigeria these days. The overcrowding of Lagos is the main cause for the corruption that is rife in the country according to one theory advanced by a foreign airline official.

"What has happened is that everybody suddenly needs to be in Lagos because of the oil and international trade. If one needs a room, a passport, a document, extra petrol, a car, someone, somewhere will want some extra money to help you. Mind you, they will not ask for it but you will know what to do."

As we spoke, a man in uniform demanded to see our passports. My more experienced visitor advised against it without proof of the need to see the passports.

He told me: "In a moment he will threaten to arrest us. But all that will happen for now is that he will say your name is spelt incorrectly or you date of birth is wrong and will offer to have this corrected or overlook the whole affair if possible. That 'if possible' means money. Don't give in."

We did not and the arrest threat was made. But in the end nothing came of it and he went away.

There is corruption on a large scale but nobody wants to be quoted, of course. A government official told me in Kano: "I am afraid we have all become used to this way of life and it will now take years to break the appalling habit."

A British businessman, snatching a few days' rest in Jos, a hill station with moderate temperature, told me: "I know there is no such thing as a free lunch but here they want a free car to bring them to the lunch table. Documents are lost or take forever. Phones do not work—I have not been able to ring London for more than a week—lifts do not work and goods are in short supply but there is always someone who can get you anything you want—for money, whether it is legal or not. Regrettably one has to fall in with this way of life or go under."

A container terminal official said: "Corruption is a way of life, I suppose, but it all started in the days of the backlog in the port at Lagos. It could have taken months and months to get your goods cleared even with paying a corrupt official, so one paid more."

Others put corruption down to envy and the wealth in the wake of the oil industry.

A hotel manager in Port Harcourt suggested: "It is creeping in a Europeans offer bigger tips to get extras. It is almost coming to the point where the waiters will want a tip to tell a customer what is on the menu. It is ridiculous and worrying."

Back in London, I asked the Inland Revenue information service whether I could charge the corruption money against income tax. I explained the corruption was not in the United Kingdom but in West Africa. "Oh you have been to Nigeria, have you, sir?"

It cannot be charged as backhanders or bribery, per se, but apparently one has to use one's common sense.

John Keeble

Black days for white goods

Derek Harris

Cooker sales were quite buoyant last spring, their usual seasonal peak. But that was virtually the last bit of good cheer the £900m a year kitchen appliance market has had.

Hoover, the market leader in automatic washing machines and cleaners, has just recorded its first loss since setting up a British operation in 1937 and late last week it announced a series of redundancies.

Some 300 jobs are to go at Merthyr Tydfil where it makes automatic washing machines, another 400 at Cambuslang in Scotland where cylinder cleaners and small appliances are assembled and 200 employees will be made redundant at Perivale, Middlesex, the factory which produces upright cleaners.

Almost every other manufacturer in the industry has also had to resort to short time or redundancies. Even Philips, the Dutch electrical giant, which has succeeded in avoiding short time in Britain, has been affected. It has had to postpone a planned factory extension in Halifax, Yorkshire, which was designed to cope with a big sales push in the medium-price, high volume front loader washing machine market.

With retailers frantically destocking since last April and consumers delaying their purchases of washing machines, cleaners and refrigeration equipment as long as possible, the manufacturers have seen no way to increase prices in line with cost inflation.

An abiding problem for the white goods manufacturers is the high level of imports. In washing machines the competition comes mainly from Italian manufacturers like Zanussi, Indesit and Candy. Makers of cylinder cleaners face a threat from a different quarter—very low cost imports from eastern Europe. These goods have been so cheap recently that the EEC is considering whether an anti-dumping case should be brought.

Last year there seemed to have been a very small respite in the onslaught when import penetration in automatic washers slid back from 45.2 per cent to 41.6 per cent and in refrigeration products from 51 per cent to 47 per cent of deliveries.

But no one is drawing much comfort from that. The fall-off seems to have been largely in goods from Italy and owed much to two particular events: a temporary halt in supplies from Indesit, which was having financial problems, and the ending of an own-label supply contract with Zanussi by the General Electric Company's Hotpoint subsidiary.

Indesit is now back in the market and Zanussi—which is advertising very heavily on television—is apparently spending more than Hoover on a marketing campaign aimed at boosting British sales under the Zanussi label and the associated Zoppas trade name.

Imports, of course, are not the only problem. Exporting is becoming a lot more difficult. Hoover and Electrolux, the Swedish multinational which manufactures vacuum cleaners, refrigerators and freezers at Luton, Bedfordshire, export a large proportion of their production.

The two companies between them account for most British vacuum cleaner exports. Hoover exports more than 50 per cent of all British washing machines and Electrolux claims two-thirds of British refrigerator exports.

In normal times that is a positive advantage. But the strong pound has meant that margins are being hammered, says Mr Jimmy James, Electrolux's managing director.

"The currency effect could put up British goods prices abroad by between 20 per cent and 30 per cent yet one cannot pull out of these markets: you would never get them back."

Something has to be done because, with the white goods market as a whole down 7.5 per cent in volume last year on an annual comparison, the earliest chance of a market upturn is probably next year. Cyclically the market is then due for an upturn, recession permitting.

The Electrolux response to the squeezed market in white goods is expected to be a widening of its range and a determined attack on more sectors. The same thing is happening at Philips. Hoover so far has not taken that route although there are signs of some diversification, at present into a range of home safety goods.

But Hoover's main thrust will still be more up-market, relying not only on the more reliable electronic circuitry found in the new generation of washers but on the higher spin speed machines which it pioneered in Britain.

In the wake of the Hoover redundancies talk in the trade is revolving round the possibility of at least a couple of independent manufacturers going to the wall, probably one in the washer sector and the other in refrigeration.

At least one of the bigger white goods companies might be wound down if profitability continues to suffer, it is being suggested.

That might make it easier for the survivors but new features to keep ahead of the market will still be vital in the market share battle. An example is a Philips innovation, developed with ICI, of a plastic tub for washing machines that is volume production will be cheaper because better stability simplifies the engineering. The tub, which is not the stainless steel liner drum to be seen inside a machine but the water holder outside it, should also offer cheaper running costs because of less water heat loss.

The other challenge for the British makers is how far they can keep price rises within the inflation rate. That puts the emphasis on bringing internal costs down—which means a lot more jobs at risk before this year is out as the makers turn to new machinery to improve productivity.

Business Diary profile: Servants no longer civil

The Civil Service unions today embark upon a challenge to the Government unprecedented in the history of both, a challenge that could prove a watershed in industrial relations for state employees formerly noted for their moderation.

To mount an overt political challenge to a government, particularly a Conservative administration, would have been unthinkable 10 years ago for a grouping of unions which had been regarded by the trade union movement as almost part of the establishment.

The inherent moderation still exists among many of the 530,000 white collar staff organized by the nine unions in the Council of Civil Service Unions, but there has been a perceptible change in attitudes over the past few years. No longer are the servants as civil as they were.

When John Ward's First Division Association of civil servants, which represents top officials up to, and including, the rank of permanent secretary, votes to join a campaign of industrial action, government ministers must realize that things are not what they used to be.

The nine unions represent such a disparate group of people, a large proportion of whom vote Conservative, that it is remarkable there should be any agreement on a programme of industrial action designed to undermine government policies.

Today's one-day strike is the opening shot in what could be a prolonged campaign of highly selective action with about 2,000 civil servants in key areas called out on strike at any one time. Lord Soames, the Lord President of the Council, and the Civil Service minister, has returned from his triumph in Salisbury to guerrilla warfare of another sort on the home front.



Guerrilla warfare threatens in the Civil Service: Lord Soames (right), Lord President of the Council and Civil Service minister, and, from top to bottom, Bill Kendall, Tony Christopher, Bill McCall and Ken Thomas, the Civil Service trade union leaders.

The nine unions in the council range from Ken Thomas's Civil and Public Services Association, which has 220,000 members who are in the main low paid clerical workers and typists, to the FDA, with about 8,000 members.

The CPSA has a history of long and bitter internal political warring, which to some extent has been muted for the time being since the right won overwhelming control of the executive in a new "pithead" style ballot last spring.

Mrs Kate Losinska, wife of a Polish Battle of Britain pilot and staunch opponent of the left, this year seeks reelection as president of the union while at the same time travelling the country urging support for the campaign of action in her role as chairman of the council.

The CPSA with its right-wing leadership is now in the moderate camp and with the leadership of only one of the unions, Gerry Gillman's Society of Civil and Public Servants leaning toward the left, the Government must have been confident that the unions would not be prepared to join battle this year.

The reason why the unions are united, and who knows how long that unity is going to last, is a sense of common grievance at what they see as successive attacks by the Government on the Civil Service, culminating in the decision to suspend their pay agreement based on "fair comparisons" and instead use cash limits as the determining factor for pay this year.

There can be no doubting the unions' industrial muscle. In addition to having around eight in ten white collar civil servants as members, and in some government departments it is as high as nine, their members work in crucially-important areas of government operations.

Tony Christopher's Inland Revenue Staff Federation has many of its 60,000 members in key positions in PAYE tax computer centres.

Then there is Gillman's Society of Civil and Public Servants (105,000 members) and Bill McCall's Institution of Professional Civil Servants (100,000 members) which in the main represents higher grades, with the former able to cause disruption among customs staff and in the VAT computer centre at Southend while the institution's membership includes air traffic and sea port controllers, scientists and naval dockyard staff.

The 40,000 members of Les Moody's Civil Service Union include messengers, chauffeurs, members of the Royal Household (exempted by the Union from striking today) and staff in Parliament, as well as cleaners and security staff.

Tom Casey's Association of Government Supervisors and Radio Officers, with about 10,000 members, could play a significant role in the campaign should the unions carry out their threat to escalate the action if the Government retaliates by suspending workers involved in the disruption.

In addition to controlling computerized stores in the Ministry of Defence, the association has members who work in sensitive communications centres such as the General Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham.

The Council of Civil Unions was established last May to succeed the Civil Service National Whitley Council (Staff Side) which was the previous representative body at national level. The aim was to increase lay involvement in decision-making at the highest level and also to reflect the greater awareness that the unions were "coming out" and are no longer to be regarded as staff associations.

The secretary general of the council is Bill Kendall, a man given to reading works of the great philosophers. At the moment he is ploughing through Pascal, who somewhere here says: "Whatever the tone of the play, the final act is bloody".

Curtain up is today.

David Felton

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MARKET REPORTS

Dry cargo sector lifts gloom

The tanker market sank further into the gloomy depths last week and only some drastic action by the owners or a major crisis influencing oil demand can seemingly provide hope of a recovery in the short term.

In the absence of such a crisis it is, as a number of brokers have recently suggested, up to the owners to act either by laying up tonnage or by sending some of their older vessels for scrapping. However, owners are reluctant to lay up their tankers because in the past it has proved to be an expensive occupation and the second option is also unattractive as demand for scrap at present is very low.

Over capacity has been affecting a number of the loading areas of late but the Gulf is by far the hardest hit. At the end of the last month some 30 ULCC and VLCCs were waiting for cargoes in the Gulf with more than 20 more expected to arrive during March. With the current low weekly level of bookings for such vessels there are too many ships chasing too few cargoes. It is, therefore, perhaps ironical that the world's largest tanker, the 565,000-ton Seawise Giant, was fixed last week to transport a part cargo of 350,000 tons from Iran to Japan in mid-March at a rate of world scale 34.

Another depressing factor is that the volume of tankers booked through the latter part of 1980 with options of storage periods included after their voyages is also falling.

In January nearly 80 vessels of 18 million tons was so engaged that by last month this had slipped to some 15.2 million tons.

Freight

Counteracting this, to some degree, is the rise in the volume of laid up tanker tonnage which has increased by about two million tons since the beginning of the year and now totals around nine million tons. While this helped, a far greater amount of tonnage will have to become inactive before a more positive impression can be made on the prevailing market break-even rate levels.

Market performance over the last seven days has been subdued with even the Caribbean zone, the one black spot in tanker chartering over recent weeks, declining. The immediate outlook can only be described as the bleakest which has faced the market for several months.

By comparison, dry cargo trading has little to worry about although some weakening in rate levels has been apparent. The underlying firm tone of this sector continues and with the world hungry for coal and grain it seems unlikely this will change for some time.

Demand for coal tended to dominate market transactions last week. Interest in North American coal was keen in spite of fears of strike action in the mines when the renewal of a labour contract falls due later this month. Because of this some charterers are holding off from committing themselves, preferring to await events.

In grain activity there was some easing in rates for transatlantic shipments, as illustrated by a 70,000 tonner securing $17.50, reflecting a fall of some two dollars on earlier business. Bookings from the Continent to North Africa and the Middle East remained a feature. Among other voyage business was an inquiry for tonnage to cover the movement of between 110,000 and 170,000 tons of sugar from Cuba to Canada in 20/25,000 tons lots between mid-April and late September.

David Robinson

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

	Latest price	Prev price
Alb & Wilson 7¼ Deb '85-90	66¼	66¼
All Pty Hlds 9½ Ln '92-97	66¼	67
All Brew 6¼ Deb '87-92	57½	57½
Do 7¼ Ln '93-98	55½*	56½
Ass Bis 7¾ Deb '90-95	67¼	65¼
AB Foods 5½ Ln '87-2002	21¾*	21¾*
Assoc Elec 6 '78-83	86½	85½
Do 6¼ Deb '86-91	61½	62
BICC 7½ Deb '90-95	55½	61
BLMC 6 '98-2003	32¼*	32¼*
Do 7½ Ln '87-92	41½*	41½*
Do 8 Ln '98-2003	44	42*
BOC Int 5¼ Deb '81-86	84½	87
Do 9 Tonnage 1988	85½	85½
Bank of Ireland 7 Ln '86-91	55½*	55¼*
Barclays Bank 8¼ 86-93	61	67½
Barclays Int 7½ '86-91	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bass Ltd 3¼ Ln '87-92	44*	45*
Do 7¼ '92-97	58½*	61
Do 8¼ Deb '87-92	67	70½
Beechams 6¼ Ln '78-83	84	83
Do 8¼ Ln '84-94	65	68
Bibby 10½ Deb '94-99	77	78
Birmid Qual 7½ Ln '87-92	54¼*	54¾*
Blue Circle 7 Deb '88-93	65	63*
Do 9 Deb '92-97	70¼*	60*
Boots 6 Ln '78-83	85¼	85*
Do 7¾ '88-93	61½	61*
Bridon 8 Deb '88-93	65½	67½
Brit Am Tob 7 Ln '82-87	84*	84¼*
Brit Shoes 7 '80-82	92½	92¼
Brooke Bond 5¼ Ln 2003-08	30	30½
Burmah Oil 6½ Ln '78-81	95	90½
Do 8½ Ln '91-96	63	62½*
Do 7½ Ln '81-86	77½	76½
Burton Gp 9¾ Ln '93-2003	66¼*	68½*
Cadbury Schweppes 8¼ Ln '94-2004	61½	60½
Coats Patons 4½ Ln 2002-07	33½	34
Do 7¼ Ln '90-95	57¼	56¼
Courage 6¼ Ln 2004-09	47½	46
Do 8 2nd Deb '89-94	64½	63½
Courtaulds 5½ '94-96	38	38½
Do 7 '82-87	71¼*	71*
Do 7¼ Deb '89-94	61*	62*
Debenhams 6¼ 2nd Deb	55*	54½*
Do 6½ Ln '86-91	59¼*	55*
Do 7¼ Ln 2002-07	55¼*	55
Distillers 7½ '88-93	61	61¼
Dunlop 6¾ Deb '85-90	64½*	[illegible]
EMI 7 Ln '87-92	60¼	60
English Elec 6 Deb '80-85	84½	82½
Fisons 6¼ '84-89	65	64
GEC 7¼ '87-92	60*	60*
Do 7¼ '88-93	61½*	61*
Gen Acc 7¼ '92-97	59¾	58¾*
Glaxo 7¼ '85-95	30½p	29½p
Glynwed 10½ Ln '94-99	72½	71½
Grand Met 10 '91-96	73*	71*
GUS 5½ Ln	37½	37
Do 7½ Ln '85-88	73¼	73½
Do 8¼ Ln '93-98	62	61¼
Hawker Sid 7¼ Deb '87-92	65½	65¼
ICI 5¼ '94-2004	32¼	32½
Do 7¼ Ln '86-91	64½	65½
Do 8 '88-93	64½	64½
Imperial Gp 10½ Ln '90-95	79	79½
Do 7½ 2003-09	55½	56
Initial Services 8 Ln '88-93	68*	68½
Int Stores 7¾ Ln 2003-08	57½	58
Laporte 10¼ Deb '94-99	78*	77½*
Land Securities 8½ '92-97	62¾	66¼
Lewis's Inv Tst 6½ 2nd '85-90	62	64½
Lucas Ind 7¼ '83-88	68¾*	67¾*
MEPC 8 Ln 2000-05	57¼	60½
Metal Box 10½ '92-97	77	77¼
Midland Bank 10¼ Ln '93-98	81	79¾
Nat West Bank 9 Ln 1993	70¾	70½
Rank Hovis 6¼ Ln '76-81	96*	96½
Do 6¾ Ln '85-88	65¼	65½
Reckitt & Col 6¼ Deb '85-90	63½	63
Reed Int 7¼ Deb '90-95	66½	66
Rugby Port Cem 6 '93-98	47¼	47½
Sainsbury (J.) 7¼ Deb '87-92	64*	63¾*
Scot Newcastle 5¾ Deb	83	82½
Do 7¼ Deb '89-94	67	67
Slough Est 7½ Deb '85-90	72	71½*
Smith (W. H.) 5½ Ln	[illegible]	[illegible]
Spillers 7 Deb '78-83	86¾*	86*
Do 7¼ Deb '84-89	67¼	67¼*
Tate and Lyle 7¼ Deb '89-94	60*	59¼*
Thomson Org 5 Deb '84-94	73½	72
Do 7¼ '87-92	62¾	61½
Tilling (T.) 8¼ Ln '89-94	67½	66¼
Tootal 4½ Perp Deb	34½	[illegible]
Do 7¼ '85-90	67¼	67
Truman Ltd 7¼ Deb '88-93	64¼	64¼
Turner & Newall 8 Ln '87-92	64	66
UDS 7½ Deb '85-90	68*	68½
Do 10¼ Deb '89-94	81*	79¼
Unigate 6½ Ln '91-96	50¾*	53¼*
Do 7¼ Deb '86-91	60¼	67
Unilever 6¾ Deb '85-88	68½*	68
Watney 7¼ Ln '94-99	54*	57¼*
Do 8 Ln '90-95	60¼*	63¼*
Whitbread 7¼ Ln '95-99	55½	56
Do 7¾ Ln '96-2000	58¾	58¾
CONVERTIBLES		
Adwest 10½ '95-2000	200	200
AB Foods 7½ '94-2004	335	340
BLMC 7¼ '82-87	53½	63
Beechams 5 '84-94	262	253
Bowater 7 '92-97	87½	88½
Guest Keen 6¾ 1985	74½	73½
Imperial Gp 8 '85-90	70	70½
Ind & Gen 4½ '94-99	147	150*
MEPC 5 '89-94	170*	176
Midland Bank 7½ '83-93	72	70½*
Romney Tst 4¾ '73-98	107	108
Tate & Lyle 13 '94-99	101½	100
Temple Bar 6 '87-91	98½	93

* Ex dividend

Investors still prefer short-term rates

Prices of international dollar bonds were narrowly mixed last week on low turnover, a condition that optimistic market participants prefer to describe as base building for a future rally, *writes AP—Dow Jones*.

Some recent fixed-rate issues moved up by around half a point over the week, suggesting that the distribution process was nearing completion.

Furthermore, several syndicate managers contend that traditional Eurobond borrowers are still reluctant to pay current market rates, which require coupons of between 14.50 per cent and 14.75 per cent. Thus, there seems to be little danger of supply pressures arising from either a flood of new issues or dumping of unsold bonds held by underwriters, analysts say.

While there has been little supply pressure, there has also been little client demand, dealers say. Indeed, the available evidence indicates that investors are still allowing the cash flow from their bond portfolios to accumulate in short-term instruments. At the moment, bank deposits yield more than bonds for most of the principal European currencies as well as for the dollar.

A study by Orion Bank shows that interest and principal payments from Eurobond portfolios this year will total $17,600m (£8,000m), up from $15,400m in 1980. These flows should provide considerable potential support for the bond market if the incentive to buy bonds is restored by a significant drop in short-term rates, analysts say.

Euromarkets

However, some bond analysts argue that there is not yet any evidence of a significant business recession developing in the United States, which would normally drive interest rates down. "Current economic indicators in the United States, still suggest that no clear trend has yet emerged as to the course of the economy", Mr Charles Geisst, a bond analyst at Hill Samuel and Co, says.

Mr Ian Kerr, who is in charge of the Eurobond research at Kidder Peabody International, says that the United States Government borrowing requirement will be in the region of $90,000m for the fiscal year ending in September. "As much of this debt burden will be financed in the short end of the market, reflecting current investor preference, short-term interest rates could remain high", he says.

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

STRAIGHT DEBT	Price	YtM
Sears 9 82	95½	14.95
Australia 8 82	93¾	15.25
EEC 7½ 82	91½	15.59
Sweden 7½ 82	91¾	15.21
BFCE 8¼ 83	92½	13.23
Norway 8¼ 83	89¾	14.45
ICI 11 83	93½	14.71
New Zealand 8½ 83	90½	13.61
Canadair 8½ 83	89½	14.12
EIB 8 84	84½	14.52
Sweden 9½ 84	88¾	14.00
GMAC 11 84	90½	14.25
Elf Aquitaine 8¼ 85	82½	14.30
Roylease 11¼ 85	90¾	14.20
IBM 10½ 85	95¾	11.82
EDC 9½ 86	84¼	14.19
Australia 8½ 86	83¾	13.13
Midland 8¾ 86	82¾	13.35
ICI 8¼ 87	78¼	13.93
Eksportfinans 10¼ 87	88½	14.18
World Bank 10¼ 87	84¾	14.07
Repstool 11½ 88	81½	15.88
EDF 10 88	82½	13.94
Shell 8¼ 90	74	15.42
Anheuser Busch 11¼ 90	84	14.47
Unilever 9¾ 90	73¾	15.78
Utd Biscuits 11 90	78¾	16.36
Norsk Hydro 9 91	79¾	12.65
Hydro Quebec 11½ 92	83½	14.59
Australia 8¼ 92	71½	15.18
Barclays 8½ 92	71½	13.41
Hudson Bay 10 94	77	13.92
Dow Chemical 9¾ 94	77¼	15.31
EEC 11 95	79½	14.38
ECSC 8¾ 97	66¾	14.33

CONVERTIBLE BONDS	Price	Conv Prem
Alco Standard 9½ 94	92½	12.15
Beatrice 4¾ 92	75	9.64
Eastman Kodak 4½ 88	89	14.30
Enserch 9¼ 94	167	3.13
Ford 5 88	56	70.30
Galveston-Houston 8 94	132	.57
INA 6 97	117	.70
Lear Petroleum 8 89	114½	4.07
J. P. Morgan 4¼ 87	99	1.91
Revlon 4¾ 87	107½	.73
Sperry Rand 4¼ 88	107	.47
Warner Lambert 4¼ 87	68½	70.38
Xerox 5 88	66¼	82.29

DMK ISSUES	Price	YtM
ECSC 7¼ 86	92¾	9.47
OKB 9 87	94½	10.23
World Bank 7¾ 88	87	10.33
Kobe 8 90	88½	9.94
Austria 8¼ 92	89	9.67

FLOATING RATE	Price	Currnt Yield
American Express 82	100¼	13.97
BNP 83	100⅜	17.64
Bank of Tokyo 84	100	15.25
IBJ 85	100¼	17.73
Offshore Mining 86	100	17.75
Midland 87	100	16.00
Credit National 88	99¼	16.77
CZB 89	99¼	18.01
Barclays 90	100⅞	19.95
BNP 91	99	17.87
Midland 92	98¾	17.41
Chase Manhattan 93	98½	17.58
Nat West 94	98¼	13.50
Barclays 95	98½	17.90

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

The difficult roads that lead towards accord

There are times when your harassed correspondent scurries from one appointment to another to report on events which, although of considerable importance, are not public occasions. International organizations, as often as not, provide the venues, and last week London saw a host of such meetings as those of the International Wheat Council, the International Cocoa Organization, and the economic and price panel of the International Tin Council.

It was all very instructive. These are difficult times for anyone administering an international commodity agreement. The IWC is prolonging the 1972 convention by two years to June 30, 1983, because it cannot agree on another course. The ICCO has been adjourning meetings since last March to avoid liquidating itself, although to be fair the last meeting did bring conciliatory noises from the Ivory Coast.

The full ITC discussions begin in Geneva today. Here again we see evidence of life after death, with the extension of the Fifth International Tin Agreement to the end of June, 1982. While the Malaysians, who have an influential position in the tin world, think that accord might be reached *this* time, the unknown factor is the United States which at the last count was still publicly pushing for a buffer stock bigger than the proposed 50,000 tonnes.

Not that problems with the world's greatest consumer are confined only to consumption. As the biggest wheat producer, the change in the United States Administration has cast a shadow over the wheat talks. It is pointed out that interpreting American policy on commodity agreements has not been helped by the absence of senior officials. By the end of last week only three top appointments had been made to the United States Department of Agriculture.

With some shrewdness, therefore, the new proposals being discussed by the IWC and sounded among members offer an alternative which avoids the automatic mechanism of a buffer stock. The proposal is that after a significant price movement—say 20 per cent over several months — measured by the IWC's index of seven wheat varieties, members would be consulted on selling or withholding stocks to stabilize the market.

The flexibility here is that the different countries' needs of consumption, exports and stocks can be balanced by consultation rather than through a mechanism which can respond to speculative or currency influences unrelated to the supply in the market and the occasionally desperate food requirements of some countries. Whether it is speedier and is not more open to political manipulation is another matter.

Commodities

But these talks, which are to be resumed in Madrid in June, will be held against a background of quite good harvest expectations. The IWC is looking to a record world wheat crop of perhaps 470 million tonnes during 1981-82, compared with 453 million tonnes in the expiring crop year. This is the minimum harvest needed to meet projected consumption of around 460 million tonnes and allow for some stock rebuilding after the depredations of the last two years or so.

So far the weather has been kind, even in the Soviet Union, and the United States crop looks like being another record. Good harvests are likely in China and India as well. But the IWC is cautious about the chances of expanding American wheat output much further. Although land is available, either by using marginal property or by replacing less profitable crops such as oats and barley, and despite better water management and fertilizers the cost will be high.

Such investment is unlikely unless the farmers can be assured of reasonable returns over several years. Hence the need for a working international wheat agreement. But the IWC's great difficulty is to persuade developed wheat importing countries to put their houses in order. It is easily overlooked that some of the biggest importers are not the deficit states of Africa which have no hard currency but the deficit states of Comecon which do have hard currency.

That is not the problem facing the ICCO. With cocoa prices so depressed, the producers and exporters are the countries facing balance of payments crises. The Ivory Coast has been forced to sell at prices more than 20 cents a pound less than the 110 cents minimum intervention price set for the new buffer stock, should it ever come into operation. Ghanaian cocoa farmers in Ashanti were reported last week to be felling cocoa trees because the price is so low and the Cocoa Marketing Board has not paid them even that.

The Ivory Coast's failure to gain even the minimum intervention price for its crop may have caused it to rethink its opposition to the buffer stock range. Whatever the motive, there is no doubt that Mr Denis Bra Kanon, the Agriculture Minister, was well received by delegates at last week's meeting. They seemed convinced that the price range could be negotiated anew, and that the Ivory Coast, responsible for about 25 per cent of world cocoa production, will sign the agreement. The ICCO group of experts will report back on its findings at the beginning of April.

It may also be that tin will finally be settled around the same time as well. The poor countries do not want the pro rata cost of a buffer stock as big as that envisaged by the United States and the very last thing they want is continued sales of tin by the General Services Administration. Unless the new administration is over-adamant it will have to compromise on both these points if not give way. Otherwise, your correspondent will be donning his trenchcoat again.

Michael Prest
Commodities Correspondent

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

FT Index change on week 489.1 −17.5 (3.45%)

Prev W'end Offer	Ch'ge on Week	Trust	Bid	Current Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers, 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5941			
63.2	−0.5	American Grwth	59.3	63.8	2.27
49.8	−0.4	Capital	45.7	49.4	4.96
60.2	−0.9	General	54.9	59.3	5.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

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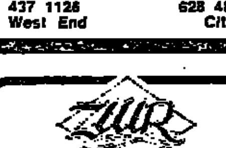
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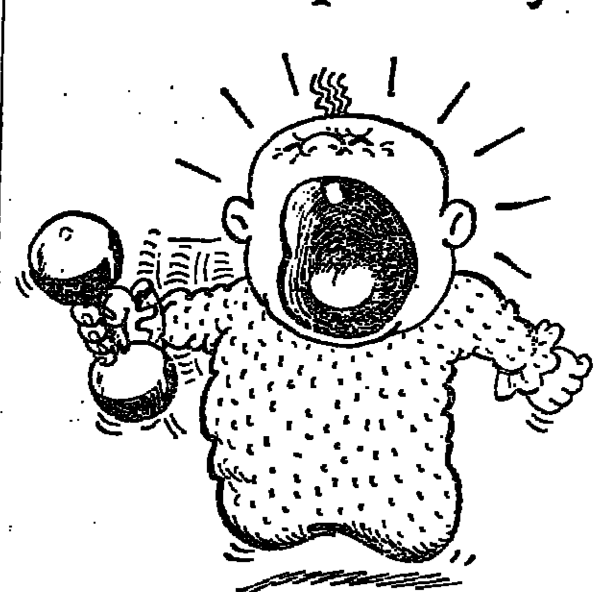
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(continued on page 26)

Commercial property

Shopping centre for Leicester

A large shopping centre is planned at Beaumont Leys, Leicester, where the city council has approved a scheme from Tesco in competitive tender.

The council has granted a 125-year lease for a premium payment of £2m and an initial ground rent of £200,000 a year. The design submitted by Tesco was prepared by the local architectural company of Gordon White and Hood. It provides a total of 200,000 sq ft of overall shopping space, with a net sales area of about 135,000 sq ft.

The total area will include a Tesco superstore of about 60,000 sq ft net, two further medium-sized stores and 40 shops, together with a garden centre, a public house and a market area for about 40 stalls under a canopy.

To be known as the Beaumont Leys Centre, the development is designed to integrate with nearby housing schemes and with the recreational complex to be developed by the council and others.

There will be public parking for 940 cars in six locations. It is expected that work on the site will begin this summer and construction work early next year with the new superstore in operation before Christmas 1983.

Tesco is also active on the Highwoods shopping centre in Colchester, where it has taken a ground lease on the first phase from French Kier Developments and is building a store of 55,000 sq ft and a park for about 550 cars. The centre is being built on about 16 acres out of a total of 200 acres owned by French Kier.

Highwoods is designated the main out-of-town shopping centre in the Colchester area and is expected ultimately to contain up to 150,000 sq ft of retail accommodation, at least 30,000 sq ft of offices, plus leisure and community facilities. French Kier is shortly to hold discussions with the local planning authority to consider the next phase of the development.

Further retail space is planned in Farnham, Surrey, where J. Sainsbury has acquired a freehold site with a frontage of 440 ft to South Street. It plans a store with a total area of about 36,000 sq ft, plus three standard shops which will be available for leasing when completed.

There will also be a two-storey park for 226 cars, to be operated by the Waverley District Council. The commercial department of Weller Eggar, of Farnham, acted for Sainsbury in acquiring the site.

In Reading, Berkshire, Audley Properties' new office development at the corner of Garrard Street and Marchants Place is to be funded by the Equitable Life Assurance Society. A building contract worth £3.1m has gone to Bovis Construction and work has started for completion in the summer of 1982.

The building, designed by Barton Willmore and Partners, will provide about 50,000 sq ft on lower ground, ground and four upper floors. It is to be finished in brick and will be air-conditioned. Richard Ellis introduced the investment to Equitable Life and is joint letting agents with Martin Pole John D. Wood.

In Birmingham, the Bank of England is to let surplus office space in its Birmingham branch in Bank Chambers, Temple Row. Edwards Bigwood and Bewlay has been appointed letting agent and is quoting a rent of £40,000 a year for the 5,290 sq ft of air-conditioned space in two self-contained suites of 4,735 sq ft and 555 sq ft with a ground floor entrance in Temple Row. Built in the early 1970s, the property overlooks Cathedral Square.

The Bank of England building in Temple Row, Birmingham, in which surplus office space is available for leasing.

Standard Life Assurance, of Edinburgh, which recently acquired the freehold of the former MG works at Abingdon, Oxfordshire, has applied for planning permission to refurbish about 300,000 sq ft of the 410,000 sq ft of existing buildings and to construct new buildings totalling over 500,000 sq ft space for warehousing and industrial use, with ancillary offices.

The total scheme is planned for completion by 1985 and will cost over £20m. Work on refurbishment is expected to start within three months, with the first units ready for occupation at the beginning of 1982. Letting is through Phoenix Beard, of London, the main agents.

Planning consent has been obtained and work started on a new industrial estate on the site of the former Drayton railway station, near Norwich.

The scheme is being carried out in phases by A. S. Nelson (Builders), who is constructing light industrial and warehouse nursery units. The first phase comprises six units of 1,000 sq ft each, and four units of 1,500 sq ft each. Letting is through Temples, of Norwich, which reports a strong demand, with applications for several units in hand, at rents of £2.75 a sq ft.

The first phase is expected to be ready in May and ultimately a total of about 45,000 sq ft is planned for the four-acre site. It will be known as the Drayton Industrial Estate.

Dunning Commercial Developments, a subsidiary of A. J. Dunning and Sons (Weyhill), has sold the freehold interest in its industrial and warehouse development at Ealing Road, Brentford, to Pearl Assurance (Unit Fund) for over £1.6m. The site was developed to provide about 34,000 sq ft of accommodation and has now been fully let at rents averaging over £3.25 a sq ft.

Conway Relief, who acquired the site for the developers, also let and sold the completed scheme. Pearl Assurance (Unit Fund) was represented by Edward Erdman, who has been retained as managing agents of the investment, which was introduced by Mason Philips.

A planning application to develop a marina complex at the head of Portsmouth Harbour has been made by the Hedley Greentree Partnership, architects, of Portsmouth, on behalf of Arlington Securities, Taylor Woodrow and Whitbread Wessex. The scheme would be known as Port Solent and has been evolved over a number of years, with substantial research on the generation of water-borne traffic. It is thought that the new berths would contribute to local boat building and ancilliary industries. The scheme will be presented to the local authority later this year.

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LEGAL NOTICES

RE: HAVERSLANE LIMITED T/A A & R PRINT (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the Companies Act, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before Friday, 17th April, 1981, to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the undersigned Ian Peter Phillips, F.C.A. of Bernard Phillips & Co., at New Cavendish House, 18 Maltravers Street, London, WC2R 3EJ, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 2nd day of March, 1981

IAN PETER PHILLIPS, F.C.A. Liquidator.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Re: MINTERWELL LIMITED

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 293 of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held in the Board Room at 35 Essex Street, Strand, London, WC2R 3AW on Wednesday the 25th day of March 1981 at 3.45 p.m. for the purpose of having a full statement of the position of the Company's affairs, together with a list of the Creditors of the Company and the estimated amount of their claims, laid before them, and for the purpose, if thought fit, of nominating a Liquidator and of appointing a Committee of Inspection.

By Order of the Board of Directors.
C. G. GOLDSMITH Director
4th March 1981

In the High Court of Justice. In Bankruptcy. No 1550 of 1974. Re: ALBERT SMITH—of no occupation—of no fixed address lately a Company Director and lately residing at Dove Cottage, West Street, Worsbro Dale, Barnsley, Yorkshire described in the Receiving Order as Unemployed. (Under Receiving Order dated the 21st November 1974). The Public Examination of the above named bankrupt which was adjourned generally on the 10th March 1975, has now been restored and will be held at the Court sitting in Bankruptcy at Court 46 (Queen's Building), Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, W.C.2 on the 8th April 1981 at 11 a.m.

J. F. O'REILLY Official Receiver

N.B.: All debts due to be paid to me.

Company No. 1269586. Registered in England. IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1948 to 1980 and in the Matter of GLAN CONSTRUCTION LIMITED. Registered Office and Business Address: Guildhall House, 81/87 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7DS.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of CORK GULLY, Guildhall House, 81/87 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7DS, on Monday 23rd March 1981 at 12 noon for the purpose mentioned in Section 294 et seq of the said Act.

Dated this 23rd day of February 1981.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD. R. SULLIVAN

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

DUDLEY M.B.C.
£2.1m bills issued 5th March due 4th June 1981 at average rate of 11.616071%. Applications totalled £22.6m. £6.4m bills outstanding.

LONDON FLATS

ARUNDEL GARDENS, W11. Quiet south-facing 2 bed flat. Large recpt, k&b, overlooking and access gardens. 125 years, £45,000 for quick sale. Tel. 03447 2251.

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YOUNG INTERNATIONAL BANKERS GO AMERICAN

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Several excellent career opportunities are currently available in the following departments:

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An outstanding career prospect is offered to an Accounts Assistant with sound experience to trial balance and beyond. An excellent benefits package including mortgage subsidy, travel allowance and *staff restaurant, accompany* this attractive opportunity. Call 405 8824.

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AN EXPERIENCED furnished letting negotiator by leading property rental and management agents. Early opportunity for successful, mature and self-motivated person to progress to position of exceptional responsibility. Please telephone N. H. Lee, Church Bros & Partners. 439 7965.

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT required for international industrial magazine. Work involves paste-up, subbing, office admin. Experience *desirable, enthusiasm and energy* essential.—Write: The Publisher A.C.P. Ltd, 27 Wilfred Street, London SW1.

TRAVEL CLERK required in Kentish Town. Must be experienced. Good salary. Tel 485 2778.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND LIVING.—Lay patron seeks incumbent for very rural Parish East Midlands. Family man preferred, approximately 30 to 56. Flexible on Prayer Book. Understanding of countryside essential. Box No 2441 F, The Times.

TRAINEE INSURANCE ASSISTANT. Salary £ neg. to join a major Life Assurance Company and receive full training. You should be educated to 'A' level standard. Excellent prospects for a bright ambitious person. Please telephone 399 2921 / 491 8863. ELIZABETH HUNT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS.

FOR TRANSLATIONS of biological and medical texts from German into English collaborator wanted —Bollier, P.O. Box 90, CH 8134 Adliswil (Switzerland).

Public and Educational Appointments

also on page 20

COBHAM HALL
COBHAM, KENT DA12 3BL
WESTWOOD EDUCATIONAL TRUST LTD.

Applications are invited from Graduates of wide experience for the post of

HEAD

at this recognised international and interdenominational Boarding School for girls, founded 1962. At present there are approximately 260 boarders and 40 day girls. The post will fall vacant in September, 1981.

Requests for details of the post and application forms should be sent to the

Clerk to the Governors of the School, to whom applications should be returned by 26th March, 1981.

UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
The Departments of Law and Economics
Social Science Research Council

POST-GRADUATE STUDENTSHIP IN LAW AND ECONOMICS

Applications are invited from suitable candidates qualified or about to qualify in Economics or Law or Economics and Law for one-two year S.S.R.C. Post-Graduate Studentship tenable at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne from 1st October, 1981. Further particulars concerning this Studentship are available from Professor A. I. Ogus, Department of Law, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, to whom applications together with the names of two referees should be sent before 10th April, 1981.

HEADMISTRESS

A leading and long-established co-educational kindergarten and pre-preparatory day school in London requires a headmistress from September, 1981.

Applications are invited from outstanding candidates able to take full responsibility for the management and educational direction of the school. The full time teaching staff numbers seven, with substantial student assistance, specialist part-timers, a secretary, and domestics. There are approximately 130 children in classes of 20 and the school routinely sends pupils on to the leading I.A.P.S. schools

Candidates should be qualified as teachers and be sympathetic towards the Montessori system, which is used in some measure. Proven administrative experience is essential. Remuneration, including an annual bonus, will be not less than £10,000, and accommodation may be available if required.

Please write to Box 2782 F, The Times.

NUFFIELD COLLEGE, OXFORD 0X1 1NF
GWILYM GIBBON RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited from men and women, preferably with experience of one of the public services, wishing to undertake a year's research into, or study of, a problem in the field of government and administration. The Fellowship carries free rooms, secretarial services, common table rights, and reimbursement of necessary expenses, but no stipend. Further particulars from the Warden. Closing date Monday, 27 April, 1981.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS
DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED AND PURE ZOOLOGY

Applications are invited for a post of EXPERIMENTAL OFFICER in the above Department for work on parasites of farm animals and pests of field crops involving maintenance of farm animals, conduct of field experiments, collection and analysis of data and certain physiological techniques. A good honours degree in Agricultural Zoology, Agricultural Science or Zoology and experience with the maintenance of farm animals and/or management of crop field trials is required.

The post is available from 16 April, 1981, for a fixed period of up to two years.

Salary on the 1B Scale for Other Related Staff: £4,795-£8,095 (under review).

Informal enquiries may be made to Professor Lee (Telephone Leeds (0532) 31751, extn. 370 or 551).

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT, quoting reference number 56/6/T. Closing date for applications 27 March, 1981.

Southampton THE UNIVERSITY

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for the *post of Lecturer in the Department of Geography.* Candidates should have a degree in Geography and a special interest in remote sensing and its application to land resources.

Salary on scale £5,505 x £575 (16)—£11,575 per annum (under review). The initial salary will depend on qualifications and experience but will be within the first seven points of the scale (£5,505—£7,725).

Further particulars may be obtained from Mrs E. C. P. Soars, Staffing Department, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO9 5NH to whom applications (7 copies) should be sent not later than Friday, 3 April, 1981. *Please quote reference 1547/A.*

S.R.N REQUIRED

£5,000 p.a.

From 23 April to be res-*ponsible for health* in a co-educational preparatory school. Free board residence during school terms. Apply immediately with full details and contact telephone number to the Headmaster, All Hallows School, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

Hampstead College requires graduate aged 30-35 with ex-*perience of educational adminis*tration including timetabling. An interest and knowledge of the latest technology in the secretarial and business fields is essential. Career prospects. Salary negotiable.

Applications including full *curriculum vitae and the names* of two referees to the Director of Training, St Godric's College, 2 Arkwright Road, London NW3 6AD. Tel. 01-435 9831.

The University of Sheffield
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES

Applications are invited for the post of

RESEARCH OFFICER

in the Joint Unit for Social Services Research in the above department, funded by the Derbyshire Area Health Authority and the Derbyshire Social Services Department. The work involves a study of the social characteristics of elderly people in Derbyshire hospitals. A Social Science degree and research experience essential; experience in health and social services an advantage. Tenable as soon as possible for [illegible] years. Initial salary up to £7,355 a year on Range IA for Research and Analogous Staff. Particulars from the Registrar and Secretary, the University, Sheffield S10 2TN to whom applications should be sent by 31 March 1981. Quote Ref. R553/A

GRESHAM'S SCHOOL, HOLT, NORFOLK

APPOINTMENT OF HEAD TEACHER

The Board of Governors of Gresham's School, Holt, Norfolk, invite applications for the post of HEAD TEACHER which will fall vacant at the end of the Summer Term, 1982.

Full particulars of the emoluments of the post and of the conditions of office, together with instructions for submitting applications, can be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge, London EC4R 9EL.

Applicants must be practising Christians. *The final date for receipt of applications is 11th April, 1981.*

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Perth

LECTURER IN BASIC OR CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Applications are invited for the above-mentioned position in the Department of Pharmacology. The Department is responsible for teaching programmes in the Faculties of Medicine, Science and Dentistry and provides clinical services to the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. The research interests of the Department are in the areas of clinical pharmacokinetics, drug metabolism and protein binding and basic and clinical pharmacology of the lung. Preference will be given to a candidate with previous experience in medical teaching and a research interest compatible with the departmental programme. If relevant, appropriate clinical status would be negotiated with the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. Information on conditions of appointment is available from the Acting Staffing Officer.

Current salary range: $A19,152-$A25,152 per annum. Benefits include superannuation, fares to Perth for appointee and dependent family, removal allowance, study leave and long service leave and housing loan scheme.

Applications in duplicate stating full personal particulars, qualifications and experience should reach the Acting Staffing Officer, University of Western Australia, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009, by 11 April 1981. Candidates should request three referees to write immediately to the Acting Staffing Officer.

THE BRITISH ACADEMY
LIDDELL AND SCOTT: GREEK-ENGLISH LEXICON

The Academy, in Association with the Oxford University Press, has undertaken to support the preparation of a new Supplement to this standard lexicon, and invited applications from persons of proven scholarly ability in the field of Classical Greek for the post of

EDITOR

The work is expected to take up to ten years. The appointment will initially be for two years. Salary will be related to the university lecturer scale with superannuation. Applications, supported by a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, should be sent within three weeks of the appearance of this notice to the Secretary, The British Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0NS, from whom further details of the post may be obtained.

THE FLINDERS UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the position of

LECTURER IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Candidates should be qualified to teach in research design and methodologies in social policy, planning and welfare programme implementation and evaluation. Informal enquiries may be directed to the Professor of Social Administration, Professor R. G. Brown in the University.

Salary scale: $A19,152-$A25,152. An appointment will not be made above the sixth level of the salary scale: viz. $A23,418

Further information about the position, conditions of appointment (including superannuation arrangements) and details required of applicants, may be obtained from the Registrar, The Flinders University of South Australia, Bedford Park, South Australia, 5042, with whom applications should be lodged, in duplicate, by 31 March 1981. Information also available from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts.), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEAN

responsible for the practical aspects of establishing and co-ordinating the overall programme and life of the LONDON INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY, due to open in 1982. It is intended for people engaged in secular vocation who are committed to the integration of faith, life and mission. *Its programme will be non-residential, but will emphasize the* importance of study, community and ministry.

The Institute needs an evangelical Christian who shares personally in its vision, has experience in administration and finance, and can begin work this summer.

Details and job description from:

The Rev John Stott,
12 Weymouth St., London, W1N 3FB
Tel: 01-580 1867.

University of Nottingham
CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN LABORATORIES

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION IN CELL BIOLOGY

Applications are invited for a postdoctoral appointment supported by the Cancer Research Campaign to join a research group studying tumour cell surface markers specified by monoclonal antibodies. Previous training in molecular biology is required and experience in relevant DNA cloning would be advantageous. There *will be excellent opportunities* to participate with postdoctoral immunologists/biochemists.

Salary within the scale £5,505-£9,505 per annum.

Applications with curriculum vitae and names of two referees should be sent to the Staff Appointments Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD, not later than 25th April 1981. Ref. No. 777.

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

The University of Leeds
SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

O.U.P. LEXICAL RESEARCH UNIT

Applications are invited for a post of RESEARCH ASSISTANT in the above Unit, which was set up in 1980 with the support of the Oxford University Press as a centre for research into the vocabulary of present-day English. The appointment will be made for a fixed period of up to two years.

Applicants must hold a good Honours degree in English (or in exceptional cases Modern Languages) and should have, or soon expect to complete, an M.A. in General and Applied Linguistics or English Language Studies.

Salary on the [illegible] scale for Research and Analogous Staff [illegible] (under review) according to age, qualifications and experience.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT, quoting reference No. [illegible]

Closing date for applications 27th March 1981.

"... WHILE the earth remaineth seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."—Genesis 8:22.

BIRTHS

BEAZLEY.—On March 7th, to Anne (nee Lethbridge) and Andrew—a daughter (Emma Kate), a sister for Christopher.

CORBETT.—On March 6th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Carina (nee Standing) and Freddie a daughter (Emily Fern).

EMO CAPODILISTA.—On March 7th, at the Lindo Wing, St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Christiane and Georgio—a son, a brother for Rufina.

FIELDING.—On March 5, 1981, to Stephen and Angela (nee Stokes)—a son (Christopher Joseph Lister).

GRAY.—On March 5th, to Feona and Hugh—a son.

ISHII.—On March 6th, 1981, in Tokyo, Miraka, to Kisaburo and Sachiko (nee Nakayama) — a daughter (Asuka).

MASSEY.—On 6th March, at the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, Deirdre (nee Drummond) and Peregrine—a daughter (Emma Rachel Lee).

PAGE.—On March 3rd, Marguerite Sally, a lovely daughter for Madeleine and Nicholas.

POOLEY.—On March 6th, at Queen Charlottes Hospital, to Judy and David—a son (Andrew Thomas).

SOMMERVILLE.—On 4th March, 1981, to Frances (nee Hodhbee), and Nigel Sommerville—a son (Peter).

BIRTHDAY

CALWELL, ALICE.—Holywood, co. Down. Congratulations on 100 glorious years. Phil & Marian.

MARRIAGE

RUBY WEDDING

RAYNER : LINDLEY.—On March 8th, 1941 in London, Neville to Elsie. Now at Old Selsfield, Turners Hill, West Sussex.

DEATHS

ASHFORD.—On March 6th, 1981, peacefully in a nursing home, Dr Charles Amos Ashford, aged 74, dearly loved husband of Barbara, father of Helen and Anthony and brother of Doris. Cremation 4.00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11th at Canford Crematorium, Bristol. No flowers, donations if so wished for "The Year of the Disabled."

BAKER. — Peacefully at her home at Folke, Dorset, on Thursday, 5th March 1981, Betty Kathleen, widow of Gerald Percival Baker and formerly widow of Ronald George Bally, eldest daughter of the late Mr and Mrs H. B. Eccar of The Court House, Litton Cheney. [illegible]

[illegible]

... Eversley Road, Surbiton, beloved father of Erland, Kristin and Niels. Service at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Wednesday, 11th March, at 10.50 a.m. No flowers please.

RAMSAY-FAIRFAX.—On 4th March, 1981, Lieutenant-Colonel John William (retired), formerly of 145 Oakwood Court, Kensington, London, W14, beloved husband of the late Dolores Ramsay-Fairfax. Requiem Mass at 12 noon on Thursday, 12th March next at the Church of Our Lady of Ransom, Grange Rd., Eastbourne, Sussex, to be followed by a Memorial Mass at the London Oratory at a later date to be arranged. Flowers, please, to Messrs Jordan & Cook, 50 High St., Worthing, Sussex. Worthing 32707.

DEATHS

REEVE.—On March 3 at Middlesex hospital, Sheila beloved mother of Sarah and Johnathon. Funeral service 11.45 a.m. on Thurs. March 12th at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon. Flowers to [illegible] 1 [illegible] Alexandra Rd. SW19.

RHODES.—Peacefully, on 26th February, Robert, formerly of Blackpool, and of Shurlands, Kent. Funeral 11th March, at Parish Church, Hayes, Kent, at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only. Gifts, if desired, to R.M.B.I., 20 Gt. Queen Street, London.

WOODS.—On March 4th, 1981, passed into God's presence at Saxby Lodge rest home, Victoria Drive, Bognor Regis, Evelyn Zillah, aged 93 years, widow of Lt. Col. Arthur Graham Woods, DSO, MC, formerly of Deafield, Disley, Cheshire and Leafield, Downview Road, Felpham. Funeral service at 3.00 p.m. on Friday, March 13th at St Mary's Church, Felpham. Flowers to Reynolds Funeral Directors, High St., Bognor Regis. Tel.: 864745.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM. — A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Admiral Sir Angus Cunninghame Graham, K.B.E., C.B. will be held in the Canongate Kirk, the Royal Mile, Edinburgh, on Thursday, March 12th at 3 p.m.

DAVIDGE.—A memorial service for Cecil Vere Davidge will be held in Keble College Chapel, Oxford, on Saturday, 21 March, 1981 at 11.00 a.m.

FA[illegible].—A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Marjorie [illegible] will be held on Saturday, March 14th at 11.30 a.m. at St. Nicholas' Church, Charlwood, Surrey. No mourning or flowers, but donations, if desired to International Planned Parenthood Federation, 18 Lower Regent St., S.W.1.

IN MEMORIAM

CLIBBORN.—In everloving memory of my dear wife Margaret Mercedes Edwige, mother of John, Isabel and Enrica, who died on 9th March, 1976.

CUMMINS. ANTHONY GEORGE. In everloving memory of dear Tim, who died seven years ago today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Where more of your money goes on research. The campaign has one of the lowest expenses-to-income ratios of any charity, and is the largest supporter in the U.K. of research into all forms of cancer. Please help with a legacy. Donation, interest free loan or gift "In Memoriam". [illegible]

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SAT. 14 MARCH 7.30 p.m. Chelsea Charity Fun Party. D.J.: 2 bands, cabarets, tombola. Admission £3.00 (Age Concern) 736 4244.

GOLF
1981 BRITISH OPEN SANDWICH, KENT

A luxurious 4 days and nights.
- Local 4-star hotel; coach and champagne to course every day
- Season ticket to course and reserved grandstand seat on 18th green.
- Hostessed by top amateur golfer.

Further details: 01-286 3006 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The FANY's are looking for linguists fluent in any language except French. If you are available by day or weekends, live near London and want a challenging voluntary spare time interest, phone or write to:

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DUKE OF YORK'S H.Q.
LONDON, S.W.3
TEL: 730 1115

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on a holiday for two (or £35 for one) by booking now for a holiday between 1st April and 31st Oct., at Dol-y-Coed Hotel, Llanwrtyd Wells, Breconshire, mid-Wales. Tel. 05913 215 for presentation brochure of this beautifully situated country hotel.

ARTHRITIS AND GOUT

Hip operations and Gout are special features in the Spring edition of ARC, magazine of The Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

[illegible]

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 26

SHORT LETS

FULHAM ROAD, S.W.6. Fully furnished maisonette. Large double bedroom, large kitchen/diner, sitting room, bathroom & separate W.C. Nr. Fulham Broadway tube. 3 month let only. £80 p.w. References and returnable deposit required. Telephone 01-581 2937, between 10 a.m.—5 p.m.

INSTANT FLATS. Chelsea. Luxury serviced. Mr Page. 373 3433.

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If you want the best villa, as opposed to the cheapest villa, we still have some availability on our 9th & 16th April flights to Crete. We have some super villas sleeping 2-4 in Ag. Nicolaos or [illegible]. In Corfu we can offer 15th April, staying in luxurious accommodation with central location and swimming pool, from £[illegible] inc. flight, maid (sometimes car). Other dates available inc. July August. Brochure:

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SALONIKA £79
16 May

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[illegible]	From £75	Return
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[illegible]	From [illegible]	Return
[illegible]	From [illegible]	Return
[illegible]	From [illegible]	Return
Rimini	From £86	Return
Venice	From £[illegible]	Return

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[illegible]

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Take advantage of low-season [illegible]. Choose from converted windmills, exclusive villas, some with private pools, beach studios, apartments. "Singles" parties. Prices from only £167 p.p., two weeks incl. flight and maid. Also available June-October.
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Ski the Italian Dolomites with Supertravel, where your pound goes further and enjoyment lasts longer, or ski one of the other well known resorts included below: Cour Mayeur, San Cassiano, Selva Arabba, E Canazei, Montgenevre, Sauze D'oulx £160 p.p.

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22 Hans Place,
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ABTA, AITO, ATOL 322B

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CORFU ex Gatwick [illegible] May 9, 16, Sept 26, Oct 3, 1[illegible]
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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,469

ACROSS

1 It's perfect joy for a composer (5).
4 Country-dweller we accuse of unauthorized absenteeism (9).
9 This was planted, but not in a *garden* plot (9).
10 But in ancient Rome it reversed these seasons (5).
11 Short introduction to the Gaelic language (5).
12 Of the side recently including right and left openers (9).
13 See the old poet? He made a bit! (7).
15 Caesar wished he were fatter (7).
18 Former metal weight measure, now obsolete (7).
20 Pepper ordered by me in pot (7).
21 Burns's haggis "Great —— o' the puddin'-race" (9).
23 No imaginary mountain-top domain (5).
25 Book of northern love-letters (5).
26 In which a bright spark secured a report (9).
27 One of the historical records followed by Ezra (9).
28 How low can you get? (5).

DOWN

1 A little music played on board (9).
2 Meal not started, so this man's not satisfied (5).
3 A representative of the cycle factory? (9).
4 Bowman a proverbially fit type? Right (7).
5 Deserter in Farrar's book, capricious in behaviour (7).
6 Provide for some intricate recipes (5).
7 Decoration for an old lime perhaps (9).
8 Unlike a good man in New York (5).
14 His runs may lead to the recovery of the game (9).
16 A good sort, avoiding the bypass (9).
17 Prolific old woman given accommodation by him (9).
19 The jam trade? (7).
20 Roofing material for a Wendy-house? (7).
21 Short girl in charge of the Maths section (5).
22 Wrongdoer initially lurking out in marshy land (5).
24 Audibly permitted (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,468

(continued on page 24)

Printed and Published by Times Newspapers Limited, P.O. Box 7, [illegible] London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone 01-837 1234. [illegible] March 9, 1981. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

PERSONAL CHOICE



Freddie Old, one of the characters of Roman Road, Bow, is in the first edition of Roots of England (BBC 2, 7.40 pm)

● World in Action Special's ambitious programme Inside the Cabinet (ITV, 8.00 pm) reconstructs, with the aid of eight role-playing journalists, the recent Cabinet discussions on government economic policy. World in Action does not claim that the programme is a verbatim account of the arguments that occurred in the Cabinet but believe that what the well-informed journalists speak is as close as possible to what actually took place. The programme opens in a July 1980 meeting after Mrs Thatcher (Sarah Hogg, The Economist) returns from her holiday to discover that her principal ploy for beating inflation, control of the money supply, was not working, contrary to what she had been led to believe. Her reaction to that was to tighten public expenditure and to impose a disguised incomes policy which she vowed never to introduce. From that time various meetings are reconstructed up to and including the recent arguments concerning the miners. Among the journalists appearing are Hugh Stephenson of "The Times" (Sir Geoffrey Howe), Peregrine Worsthorne (William Whitelaw), Mark Schreiber (Sir Keith Joseph) and Adam Raphael (Jim Prior).

● To take our minds away from the serious side of politics and what is in store for us tomorrow in the Chancellor's budget it is a pleasure to look forward to Yes Minister (BBC 2, 9.00 pm) which must be one of the funniest comedy series seen on the small screen. I have sung its praises often enough before but with the paucity of humour available nowadays (as my colleague Peter Davalle pointed out last week) it is very difficult to recommend anything in the comedy line. This week Sir Humphrey seems to be having a difficulty in persuading the minister that the electronic surveillance equipment which his department supplies is a necessary evil. Not so says Jim and takes up a stance in defence of an individual's right to privacy. When his own life is in danger he quickly changes his mind.

● Unfortunately clashing with the World in Action reenactment is Michael Charlton's excellent series The Price of Victory (Radio 3, 8.00 pm) which looks at Britain's missed European opportunities after World War Two. This evening Mr Charlton reaches the point where Britain officially withdrew from discussions to create a European Economic Community and, for the first time in public Russell Bretherton, our representative at the Brussels meeting, gives his account of the conference and of our decision of non participation. Lord Butler, too, gives a startling and hitherto unpublished comment on British policy at that time.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: *From Petroleum to Polythylene*; **7.05** M101/3 Trig Formulae; **7.30** Home Sweet Dome; Closedown at **7.55**.
9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Dispensing; **9.30** Oscillation; **9.52** Leisure reading; **10.15** Music Time; **10.40** French Language; *11.00 Merry-go-Round*; *11.40* You and Me (not schools); **11.40** Alan Sillitoe; Closedown at **12.10 pm**.
12.45 News.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: In today's edition Tommy Trinder continues the story of his career with a look at some of the films in which he *has appeared. We also see a house* built underground at the Ideal Home Exhibition; **1.45** Mister Men: Mr Noisy and Mr Sneeze (r).
2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Words and Pictures; **2.18** Geography; **2.40** Working in Food Manufacturing.
3.00 When the Bough Breaks: John Thaw with the eighth of ten *programmes which give advice to* parents who are worried that they ill treat their children; **3.15 Songs** *of Praise*: from the Barnardo Children's village introduced by Richard Baker (r); **3.55 Play School** (shown earlier on BBC 2); **4.20 Secret Squirrel**: Cartoon adventures of a nut-loving rodent; **4.25 Jackanory**: John Duttine reads the first part of A Walk in *Wolf Park* by *Mary Stewart*; *4.40* Rentaghost: Comical adventures of a gang with a pet ghost; **5.05** John Craven's Newsround: Intelligently presented world news for young people; *5.10 Blue Peter*: The programme celebrates the Golden Jubilee of Guide Dogs for *the Blind, with flash backs to the* dogs provided by Blue Peter viewers since 1964.
5.40 News: read by Jan Leeming; **5.55 Nationwide**: Current affairs from studios all around the country plus the weekly look at reports of bureaucratic abuse, Watchdog: **6.55 Triangle**: *Part 19 of a* drama series based on a North Sea ferry; **7.20 Star Trek**: Hideously *ugly people who possess beautiful* thoughts are the guests of the starship Enterprise.
8.10 Panorama: Has the Lady Turned? David Dimbleby looks for clues to see if the government *has changed its economic policy*.
9.00 News: read by John Edmunds.
9.25 Film: **Brink's**: **The Great Robbery** (1976) starring Carl Betz and Stephen Collins. A dramatized reconstruction of a robbery on a security vault in Boston, USA, in *January 1950* when three million dollars in cash and securities were stolen.
11.00 Film 81: Barry Norman reviews The Great Santini, the story of a US Marine fighter pilot starring Robert Duvall, and the Wyoming pioneers' drama, Heartland. From New York Gene Wilder talks about his new comedy film Stir Crazy in which he teams up *again with Richard Pryor*.
11.30 In the Post: The penultimate programme for philatelists introduced by *Gwyn Richards and Jill* Cochrane looks at the Great Collections.
11.55 News headlines and weather.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: *Macbeth*; *7.30 Potsdam 1: The* Meeting. Closedown at **7.55**.
10.00 Focus: The ninth of ten *programmes on higher education*.
10.25 A Taste of Work. A look at schemes to help the unemployed. Number Four: *Project Fullemploy* (r): Interval at **10.50**.
11.00 Play School: The presenters are Carol Leader and Chris Tranchell and the story is Clarence the Clockwork Clown by Peter Charlton; **11.25 Write Away**: Barry Took with advice on writing personal letters (r); Closedown at **11.40**.
2.15 pm Let's Go: Brian Rix with *advice for the mentally handicapped*. This afternoon he has hints on gardening (r); **2.30** *Multi-Racial Britain*: A series of ten programmes designed to help racial harmony in Britain. Home Away from Home is the title of this the ninth in the series (r); **3.00 Embroidery**: Jan Beaney with advice on Quilting (r); **3.30 Wainwrights' Law**: Number nine in a ten-part series *on the rights and* responsibilities of citizens in a dramatised form (r); Closedown at 3.55.
4.15 Work and Leisure: The *fourth in a series of five lectures*. The speaker this afternoon is Shirley Williams; **4.40** Interval.
4.50 Open University: Rosmersholm: Dream Work. **5.15** Stereochemistry: Conformational Analysis.
5.40 King of the Rocket Men*: A twelve-part science fiction serial starring Tristram Coffin. Part one: Dr Vulcan—Traitor; **6.00 Cameo**: *A look at some of the birds of* the Camargue. The narrator is Douglas Leach; **6.10 Rock Goes to** *College*: *From the University of* Warwick Pete Drummond introduces Siouxsie and the Banshees.
6.50 Artists in Print: Norman Ackroyd is the first subject in a new series that shows artists making original prints.
7.15 News with sub-titles for the hard-of-hearing.
7.30 One Hundred Great Paintings: Edwin Mullins, continuing on the *theme of Adoration, examines the* Birth of Venus by Botticelli which hangs at The Uffizi, Florence.
7.40 **Roots of England**: The first of a series that looks at English *communities* that have a strong link with the past. Roman Road, Bow, is the subject this evening.
8.15 Marti Caine: The pretty singer/comedienne returns with another series of six programmes *and her guests tonight are Alfred* Marks and Wayne Sleep.
9.00 Yes Minister: Jim Hacker is horrified when he learns his department is responsible for supplying bugging equipment and wants to stop these instruments of eavesdropping—until he discovers *he is on a terrorist's death list*. (See Personal Choice).
9.30 Horizon: Gentlemen, Lift *Your Skirts*: *This sounds a bit of* a drag but it is about the skirt on a Formula One racing car and how *it helps an already-rapid car go* even faster. The narrator is Martin Jarvis.
10.20 Say it with Baby Grand: Musical entertainment of an odd sort from Wales.
10.50 Newsnight: In-depth analysis of the news that made today's *headlines*.
11.35 Tele-Journal: The news in French introduced by Marianne *Lawrence. The programme ends* at **12.05 am**.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Understanding shapes; **9.47** Discovering Venice; **10.05** The art of disguise; *10.23* Elementary arithmetic; **10.40** French conversation; **11.05** The Sea for deaf and hearing impaired children; **11.22** Picture Box; **11.39** Life with a Victorian doctor and *his family*.
12.00 Paperplay: Susan Stranks with puppets for the very young; *12.10 pm Rainbow*: *Educational* puppets presented by Geoffrey Hayes; **12.30 Vet**: Advice for pet owners. Today vet John Speer visits the country and learns about ponies.
1.00 News: read by Peter Sissons; **1.20 Thames News**: with Robin Houston.
1.30 Crown Court: A medium is accused of obtaining money by *deception (r)*; *2.00 The Riordans*: Drama series about an Irish rural community.
2.30 Film: **The Southern Star** (1968): starring Ursula Andress and George Segal. This is loosely based on a story by Jules Verne and concerns an unscrupulous villain based in French West Africa who is trying to steal a recently mined diamond called The Southern Cross.
4.15 Dr Snuggles: **4.20 Graham's Ark**: Graham Thornton visits the Southridge animal rescue centre in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, and talks to some of the teenagers who have volunteered to look after the animals; **4.45 Heavens Above**: *Continuing* their exploration and explanation of the galaxies Heather Couper and Terence Murtagh turn their attention to the little known phenomena of black holes.
5.15 Money-Go-Round: *with* Joan Shenton and Tony Bastable. This week they investigate car dealers *who advertise as private sellers and* find out what our rights are when we buy on credit.
5.45 News; **6.00 Thames News**: with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter.
6.35 Crossroads: The notorious Arthur Brownlow returns home to *a frightening situation*; *7.00* Nature Watch: Julian Pettifer meets Densey Clyne, an Australian housewife who has made a particular study of the deadly funnel-web spider. This and other small creatures she photographs in her own garden in Sydney; **7.30** *Coronation Street*: Emily Bishop is held hostage in her own home by her bigamous husband, Arnold Swain.
8.00 World in Action: **Inside the Cabinet**: A dramatized reconstruction, with journalists taking the leading roles, of the arguments *that have been going on in* Cabinet over the Government's economic policies. Sarah Hogg of *The Economist plays the part of* Mrs Thatcher and our own Fred Emery is defence secretary Francis Pym (see Personal Choice).
9.00 The Sweeney: Mercury is missing and Regan and Carter are hot on its trail (r).
10.00 News.
10.30 Lou Grant: Another story featuring the believable city editor of the *Los Angeles Tribune*. This evening the newspaper is trying to find out the cause of a mysterious swelling on a waste tip site.
11.30 Rock Stage: Sad Café are the featured band tonight and they are seen in concert at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
12.25 am Close: with Dr John Ral.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Week.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 *The Week on 4.*
8.45 BBC Sound Archives.
9.00 News.
9.05 Start the Week.
10.00 News.
10.02 Money Box.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: Love is Not Love, by H. E. Bates.
11.00 News.
11.05 If the Face Fits.
11.50 Poetry *Please!*
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Joke by Joke by . . . Art Buchwald.†
12.55 *Weather.*
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Journey into Space, by Charles Chilton.†
4.35 *Home Is . . . (3).*
4.45 The Trumpet Major, by Thomas Hardy (11).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Frank Muir Goes Into Self-Importance.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Just a Minute.†
7.50 *Play*: *Huasipungo*, by Elizabeth Gowans.†
9.20 Senses of Occasion.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 Science Now.
11.00 The Painted Veil (11).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.

VHF
10.02 am Schools: Music Interlude; Noticeboard (1); Time to Move.
10.30 Listen with Mother.
10.45-12.00 Schools: Da sind wir wieder! (6); Singing Together (17); *Springboard*; Drama Workshop.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Exploration Earth; *Listening and Reading II*; Speak: Movement and Drama 2.
11.00 Study on 4: World Powers in the Twentieth Century (20).
11.30-12.10 am Open University: *Earth's Physical Resources*; Dr Benjamin Spock.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Boyce, Liszt, Donizetti, Tchaikovsky, Grainger.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Mendelssohn, J. C. Bach, *Schumann* (*Sym 4*).†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Clementi (incl Sym 1).†
9.45 BBC Concert Orch/Alwyn: Messager.†
10.50 Piano: Martinu, Kopelent, Jirak.†
11.35 Berlin PO/Atherton: Stravinsky, Prokofiev, Sibelius (Sym 1).†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 City of London Sinfonia etc/ Hickox (live from St John's): Purcell (Dido).†
2.15 Matinee Musicale.†
3.15 *Songs*: Bartok, Bakki.†
4.00 New Records: Haydn, Bruch.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Portrait of Jussi Björling.†
8.00 The Price of Victory (5). (See Personal Choice)
9.15 BBC Northern SO/Measham: Stoker, Vaughan Williams (Sym 4).†
10.05 Story: Playing on the Line, by Gareth Jones.
10.30 Jazz in Britain.†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Rosenmüller.†

VHF
6.15 am-6.55 Open University: On Being a Social Worker; Athens and the Peloponnese.
11.15 pm-11.55 *Open University*: Handling Primary Sources; Why Design a Dome?

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† **7.30** Terry Wogan.† **10.00** Jimmy Young.† **12.00** David Hamilton.† **2.00 pm** Steve *Jones*.† **4.00** Much More Music.† **6.00** John Dunn.† **8.00** Folk on 2.† **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton.† **10.00** Movie Quiz. *10.30* Star Sound. **11.00** Brian Matthew. **2.00 am-5.00** You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. **7.00** Mike Read. **9.00** Simon Bates. **11.00** Andy Peebles. **12.30 pm** Newsbeat. **12.45** Paul Burnett. **2.30** Dave Lee Travis. **4.30** Peter Powell. **7.00** Stayin' Alive. **8.00** Richard Skinner. **10.00** John Peel.† **12.00** Close.
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: **5.00 am** With Radio 2. *10.00 pm* With Radio 1. **12.00-5.00 am** With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 1648 Khz, 463m) at the following times (GMT)—
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Short Story. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Masters of Early Music. 8.30 Thirty-Minute Theatre. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 Notes from an Observer. 9.20 Theatre Call. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 D. J. Roundtable. 10.15 Take One. 10.30 Emu[illegible]. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 New Waves. 11.30 Fiesta. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 The Book Programme. 2.00 The Best of Beecham. 2.30 Rustpole. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Sarah and Company. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Book Choice. 5.15 Europa. 5.30 A House for Mr Biswas. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 Europa. 9.30 The Best of Beecham. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Short Story. 11.30 DJ Roundtable. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 Little Dorrit. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Europa. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 Sports International. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Fiesta. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales: 9.52 am-10.12 Schools. 1.45 pm-2.01 Pila Pala. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 6.55-7.20 Heddiw. 7.20-8.10 The Walls of Jericho (7). 11.59-12.29 am The Sky at Night. 12.29 News and Weather. Scotland: 11.00 am-11.20 Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 11.30-11.55 16 Up. 11.55 News and weather. Northern Ireland 3.53 pm-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 11.59 News and weather. England: 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional magazines. 12.00 midnight Close.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Money-go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Trottie True (Jean Kent). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Report West. 10.28 News. 10.30-11.30 Quincy. HTV CYMRU/WALES, As HTV West except: 10.05 am-10.20 About Wales. 11.05-11.20 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 2.00-2.30 Hamdden. 4.15-4.20 Solitary Refinement. 4.45-5.15 Ser. 6.00-6.20 Y Dydd. 6.25-7.00 Report Wales. 8.00-8.30 Punchlines. 8.30-9.00 Yr Wythnos. 10.30-11.30 World in Action.

Anglia

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Convicted* (Glenn Ford, Broderick Crawford). 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.30-7.00 Welcome Back Kotter. 12.30 am Reflection.

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30 Film: High Risk (Joseph Strola). 3.45-4.15 Money-go-Round. 5.15-5.45 *Different Strokes. 6.00 Lookaround.* 6.15 Wine and Dine. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 10.30 Snooker. 11.15 Rockstage. 12.15 am-12.18 News.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closdown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye* (James Cagney). 3.45-4.15 Money-go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr. and Mrs 6.00 Channel Report. 6.15 Cartoon. 6.30-7.00 Amazing Years of Cinema 10.28 News. 10.38 Electric Theatre Show. 11.05-12.00 Rockstage.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. Lookaround. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film House of Secrets (Michael Craig). 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Northern Report. 11.00 SWAT. 12.00-12.05 am Value of Things.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Carnival* (Sally Gray). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Granada Reports. 10.30 Rugby League. 11.15-12.40 am Film: Deliver Us From Evil (George Kennedy).

ATV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Best Sellers: Top of the Hill. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 10.30 Left, Right and Centre. 11.10 News. 11.15 Rockstage. 12.15 am-12.30 Something Different.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Film: Ebony, Ivory and Jade (Bert Convy). 3.45-4.15 Money-go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr. and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Day By Day. 10.35 Music in Camera. 11.05-11.30 WKRP in Cincinnati. 12.30 am Weather followed by Ian Caddy Sings.

Grampian

As Thames except: *Starts 9.25 am*-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Third Man* (Joseph Cotten, Orson Welles). 3.45-4.15 *Money-Go-Round.* 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 10.30 Palace Presents. 11.30 Living and Growing. 12.00-*12.05 am News.*

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: 2000 Women (Phyllis Calvert, Flora Robson). 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.40 Crimedesk. 7.00-7.30 Now You See It. 10.30 Golf. 11.30 Living and Growing for Adults. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05 am-12.30 Three's Company.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Money-Go-Round. 2.30-4.15 Film: Horse's Mouth (Alec Guinness). 5.15-5.45 *Mr and Mrs.* 6.00-7.00 Calendar. 10.30 Rugby League. 11.15-12.15 am Rockstage.

Westward

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye* (James Cagney). 3.42 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 3.45-4.15 Money-Go-Round. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 10.32 News. 10.36 Electric Theatre Show. 11.05 Rock Stage. 12.00-12.05 am Faith for Life.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime 2.30 *Film: Broadway Limited* (Victor McLaglen). 3.45 Money-go-Round. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.30 By *This I Live*. *11.00* Soap. 11.30-11.40 Bedtime.

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Aldermaston plant is brought to halt by Civil Service strike

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston where nuclear warheads are being developed for Britain's next generation of strategic deterrent, was among defence establishments affected by yesterday's Civil Service strike.

The submarine base on the Clyde, where 82 per cent of the non-industrial workers obeyed the unions' call, was another. But operations of the Polaris submarine force were not affected.

Those involved in Wintex-81, Nato's biggest command post exercise for two years, which opened yesterday, were hampered by a shortage of communications staff. Signals were dispatched and received more slowly than planned.

It was the second time in succession that a Wintex exercise has been affected by civil servants' industrial action, and as the operation continues for two weeks the unions will have further opportunity to disrupt Britain's participation in it.

Altogether 40 per cent of the 112,000 non-industrial defence employees in Britain did not turn up for work, according to the Ministry of Defence. But the response was uneven, bringing production to a halt in some places such as Aldermaston while in others the effect was minimal.

Worst affected were the Royal Ordnance Factories where 90 per cent took the day off, and the naval dockyards. Five ordnance factories at Chorley, Lancashire; Bishopton, Renfrew; Bridgwater, Somerset; Glascoed, Gwent; and Nottingham, were forced to close, sending home their industrial workers on full pay. The dockyards at Rosyth (more than 95 per cent) and Chatham (80 per cent) had to take similar action, while Devonport (35 per cent) and Portsmouth (70 per cent) struggled through.

RAF Support Command workshops were also seriously affected. As many as 98 per cent went on strike at a maintenance unit at Carlisle, while there was a similar response in other centres. The ministry's Royal Signals and Radar Establishment at Malvern managed to keep going although more than half its Civil Service workforce stayed away.

In Army workshops the response hovered between 60 and 70 per cent. But the Army establishments in general suffered only an 18 per cent loss of labour, and the distribution was patchy.

In Northern Ireland 22 per cent stayed away, but without causing operational difficulties. The Army was most affected in Wales where the strike was 43 per cent effective. Eastern District and Scotland, however, reported little difficulty. In most Army regions the response was concentrated in specific areas such as workshops and similar centres with a high civilian labour force. In London District only 1 per cent stayed away.

Scottish action: About 50,000 civil servants were reported to have supported the strike in Scotland. All airports, government offices, courts and public buildings were affected (Ronald Faux writes from Edinburgh). Rallies in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen were well supported and indefinite action began at key military bases.

At Faslane staff responsible for documenting supplies being loaded on board nuclear submarines were on strike and at Pitreavie Castle civil servants dealing with maintenance of equipment did not turn up.

Listening to foreign intelligence disrupted

By Peter Hennessy

Among the more worrying pieces of information considered at yesterday afternoon's meeting of the Cabinet committee charged with handling the consequences of the one-day Civil Service strike was the serious disruption to the Composite Signals Organization, the supplier of essential raw material to the Secret Intelligence Service and the Ministry of Defence's military intelligence establishment.

The ministry and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office declined to give figures for those on strike in the sensitive area of communications intelligence. But the central operations room in the Civil Service Department, passing strike information to the Cabinet's Economy (official Civil Service) Committee, will have reported the shutdown of several sections of the organization's seven listening stations in the United Kingdom and its central installation, the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) in Cheltenham.

A substantial number of administrative staff reported for work. A Foreign and Commonwealth Office spokesman said, on behalf of GCHQ: "A low percentage of staff did not turn up and there was some effect on operations."

Union sources put the response to the strike call at 90 per cent among cypher and communications personnel responsible for technical operations at Cheltenham and its seven outstations.

Their action could well mean that the country lost the bulk of one day's worth of signals intelligence, an activity where speed is of the essence in Whitehall's attempt to monitor the communications of potentially hostile powers.

All but one of the seven listening stations and the Cheltenham headquarters will be back at work today. The exception is the Composite Signals Organization Station at Bude, Cornwall, which tracks Soviet satellites.

The Council of Civil Service Unions has chosen Bude for selective industrial action which will continue for some time. Whitehall is taking the threat to Bude seriously.



Safe for pedestrians : A maintenance man at work on Heathrow's silent runway yesterday.

Only one person at No 10 fails to report for work

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Believing that they have foiled any Budget delays planned by Civil Service strikers, Whitehall sources were confident last night that the necessary steps would be taken by senior management in Customs and Excise to ensure immediate and regular implementation of any tax changes announced today by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. So there will be no "bonus" for consumers.

The unions had planned to have key officials walk out and fail to deal with special envelopes containing Budget instructions.

However, high Whitehall sources outlined the counter strategy. First, as soon as the Chancellor sits down this afternoon a provisional Budget resolution takes legal effect, until the Commons vote next Monday confirms it.

Customs and Excise management would take steps to see that any value-added tax changes take immediate effect, although it is said that any VAT changes would be a big surprise.

New duties would take immediate effect on goods in bonded stores; that applies to petrol pumps, so petrol prices are likely to rise immediately.

Studied indifference was described as the Prime Minister's response to the Civil Service strike. Her attitude throughout has been that the strike has been absolutely unjustifiable.

However, one person in her office disagreed. He was described as a "secondee" or trainee in the Prime Minister's press office, and he alone of the No 10 civil servants did not turn up yesterday.

He will, it is claimed, not be summarily returned to his department but will serve out his term as the parlance goes.

Whitehall sources admitted that a fifth of the six hundred staff, apparently mostly junior civil servants, failed to work.

Shoppers sail past customs on a pre-Budget spree

From Frances Gibb
Dover

Holidaymakers returning from the Continent yesterday had the chance of a pre-Budget bonanza with customs officials in south coast ports out on strike.

But they showed great restraint, either through honesty, lack of money or sheer ignorance of the dispute.

"Why didn't somebody tell us about it?" complained one traveller on seeing the empty desks behind the red "Something to Declare" and green "Nothing to Declare" channels at Dover. Others feared they might have been caught red-handed and felt it was not worth the risk.

But the chance was not lost on everyone. Two men from Thanet, Kent, came through the customs barrier laden with plastic bags bursting with drink, chocolates, electrical goods and other souvenirs from Boulogne. "We always go before Budget day," one of them said, "but it did make it that bit more worth it today without the customs."

Customs officers are sure that many travellers had taken advantage of their absence.

Mr James Feeney, an official with the Council of Civil Service Unions and a customs officer, said people had been telephoning him and his colleagues that morning to make sure the strike was really on.

More travellers than usual had gone for day trips judging by the cars in the car park; ships' crews, he said, had come aboard with "very long arms".

On a normal day shift about 15 cars from each of 14 ships would go through the red channel and about 20 would be stopped going through the green channel, of which 70 per cent were usually above the legal allowance.

All passengers with something to declare were invited to make use of a so-called "honesty box" into which they were asked to put a form stating what they had imported, and giving their names and addresses.

"But how many people do you think use that?" Mr Feeney said. "It is usually full of notes just taking the mickey."

But Mr Neil Tanner, a traffic marshal, said that the same number of cars as usual were going through the red channel and their drivers making use of the honesty box.

An estimated 250 customs workers were on strike yesterday, representing more than 90 per cent of the workforce.

Home Office count: The Home Office said last night that 2,541 people in the department were on strike, 26.6 per cent of those employed there (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes). They included 263 immigration officers, about half the number who would be at work at any one time.

In the prison department, about 700 of the 3,000 administrative grade civil servants did not work. Some prison officers took supporting action, but the running of establishments was said not to be affected.

One militan pedestrian ruffles calm of Whitehal

By Craig Seton

A militant pedestrian s ing and abusing pickets ou the Treasury caused the ruffle of alarm in Whit yesterday as white-c workers abandoned their d in the citadel of the Service and picketed the government departments.

The Treasury pickets call policeman and the pedes was warned about behaviour: otherwise the day strike in Whit appeared to have been ma by politeness, good humour pouring rain.

Claims about the effec the strike were many varied, ranging from a rur that communications bet the Foreign Office and em sies abroad had been halte a good-humoured sugges that the Secretary of State Scotland would have diffic answering questions at Commons today.

The most senior civil serv were not on the picket l Permanent secretaries staye their posts and although s under secretaries and assis secretaries were said to l joined the strike they were to be seen under the umbr outside the ministries, w messengers and clerical cers shared picket duty.

The unions involved strictly limited the picket six at each main entranc keep within the Governm code of practice.

At Downing Street, Mr Thatcher, the Prime Mini son, driving a sports car Mr Victor Popov, the S Ambassador, swished thr the barrier and past the pic without stopping.

The drivers of a laundry and a GPO vehicle refuse cross a picket line and pickets were cheered by thought that the Prime Mini would go without her mail clean laundry. But they fa to spot Lord Soames, the m ster responsible for the Service, who is dealing their pay claim, leave Dow Street huddled glumly in front of a chauffeur-driven

Outside the Cabinet O pickets said Mr Patrick Jen the Secretary of State Social Services, had tried point out the error of t ways, but other minis including Sir Keith Jos Secretary of State for Indu and Mr Francis Pym, Leade the House, had ignored the

A picket said: "We are of the image we have brollies and cups of tea. brolly brigade are all in and they will find out t how much they miss us."

At the Scottish Offic picket said: "Without us t the work the ministers going to have to start us their brains".

Mr Robert Taylor, a cler officer picketing the Fore Office, said work on codes a cyphers had been abandon for the day

Leading article, page

Picket at Bevin ceremony

By Our Political Editor

Mrs Queenie Wynne, Ernest Bevin's daughter, yesterday crossed a Civil Service picket line to attend a Department of the Employment ceremony honouring the centenary of her father's birth. But the Labour movement leadership did not.

Among the absentees were Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, members of the Shadow Cabinet, Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, and other union leaders.

Regret was later voiced by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, for any distress caused to guests by what he termed action "to disrupt" the ceremony.

Department attempts to negotiate a dispensation with the strikers failed.

Business as usual for passengers and flight controllers at Luton airport

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Luton airport on a wet and blustery Monday hardly ranks among the world's glamorous aviation crossroads, but yesterday it took on an unaccustomed charm for passengers.

As one of a handful of airports in Britain operating in spite of the strike of civil servants, including air traffic controllers, it handled 16 airliner departures and 17 arrivals carrying a total of five thousand people to and from holidays in the sunshine.

While no aero engines were started on the runways of Heathrow and Gatwick, Luton was full of bustle.

Jet airliners in the livery of Britannia Airways and Monarch Airlines roared off into the low cloud. In the terminal building, passengers made last-minute purchases, played on space-invader machines, or munched piles of sandwiches.

All that activity was made possible because Luton is a local authority airport. Its air traffic controllers are employed by the borough council, not the Civil Aviation Authority. They are not members of the civil service unions, the withdrawal of whose controller members virtually closed the big air traffic control centre at West Drayton, near Heathrow.

Controllers at Luton, using their radar which includes one of the few secondary surveillance radars in the country that enables them to see the aircraft on screens and to identify them with callsign and height, handed departing airliners over to other local authority airfield controllers at Southend.

Those controllers saw the aircraft out of British airspace and into the hands of French, Belgian or Dutch controllers.

The Luton radar covers an area of 300 sq miles and up to 3,500ft in altitude, so that the airliners had to fly lower than usual.

Economists criticize Government

Two of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's economic advisers criticized the Government progress last night.

Speaking on BBC Television's *Panorama*, Professor Friedrich Hayek said he was alarmed at the slow movement on union reform. "The minister in charge of it is not in favour of radical alteration. I have no hope that so long as the matter is in his hands the necessary things will be done", he said.

Professor Milton Friedman, on the same programme, said he understood that government spending had gone up. The prospects were not very good unless that was corrected.

He blamed resistance from bureaucracy, the Civil Service and the Conservative Party, "not truly united", for the fact that many fine objectives were not being carried out.

But he praised the Prime Minister for sticking by her guns, and said a fall in inflation could lead to a strong boom in the economy.

Earl's daughter killed in crash

Lady Joanna Stuart Wortley, aged 21, daughter of Lord Wharncliffe, died in a road crash near Cadeby Corner, Lincolnshire, at the weekend. The driver, Mr Patrick Dickinson, is in hospital with head and shoulder injuries.

Water rejection

Delegates representing General and Municipal Workers' Union water employees in Merseyside and North Wales yesterday rejected the employers' 13 per cent pay offer. Three out of the 10 union regions have rejected the offer.

John Conteh charged

John Conteh, the boxer, was last night charged with assault and appears before Marlborough Street magistrates today. The charge follows an incident at a restaurant in the West end of London.

Lecturers accept 7.5%

Union leaders representing 80,000 lecturers in England and Wales yesterday accepted a pay rise of 7.5 per cent from April 1.

Correction

Sir Philip Dowson, not Dawson as stated yesterday, is the recipient of the 1981 Royal Gold Medal for architecture.

Transport Bill for the guillotine

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

The Transport Bill was successfully guillotined in the Commons yesterday when it was allocated a timetable requiring its committee stage to be completed by the end of this month.

The Bill, which in the eyes of Labour MPs introduces a number of horrific proposals for the British Railways Board, the Transport Docks Board and the National Ports Council, has been dragging itself painfully through Parliament with little to show for the time so far spent in committee.

Yesterday Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House, gave a full and horrendous account of the verbal Olympics showing that in 17 sittings spread over 55 hours only five pages of the 77-page Bill had been dealt with. If they carried on at that rate, Mr Pym added, they would still be in committee well into 1982.

As if that was not sufficiently blood curdling, the House was further informed that Mr John Prescott, Labour MP, for Kingston upon Hull, East, had spoken on one amendment for two hours and 40 minutes.

To most reasonable men, the thought of having to listen to Mr Prescott for more than two hours should have been sufficient reason to pass the timetable motion without further argument.

It is one of the more curious customs of the Commons that if the Government considers the Opposition to be wasting time or dragging its feet on controversial legislation, its only redress is to introduce a timetable motion which itself has to be debated for three hours.

Naturally, Mr John Silkin, leading yesterday from the Labour front bench, expressed his shock and horror that any suggestion of time wasting could be made.

One MP brought the House to its toes with an account of what the actress said to the producer and Mr Albert Booth wound up for the Opposition with a final plea that his colleagues had acted with remarkable restraint.

The Tory benches shuddered slightly at the thought of what an unrestrained Mr Prescott might have achieved. But the cries of anguish fell on deaf ears and the motion was carried by 303 votes to 235, a government majority of 68.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Mrs McAliskey a likely candidate

From Christopher Thomas
Coalisland, co Tyrone

Mrs Bernadette McAliskey, the former MP for Mid-Ulster, declared herself a probable candidate for the Fermanagh and South Tyrone constituency yesterday, caused by the death last week of Mr Frank Maguire, a close friend of hers.

She also plans to resume work in the National H-Blocks Committee, she told a meeting in her home town of Coalisland.

Sinn Fein is also thinking of fielding a candidate, for the first time since 1955, when it captured Fermanagh and Mid-Ulster with two abstentionist candidates who never took their seats.

Mrs McAliskey (née Devlin) spoke of many unanswered questions after the assassination attempt on her two months ago. She said she was indebted to a young British soldier who saved her husband's life and probably saved hers.

Her right leg is still in plaster and she is using crutches; three of the seven or eight bullets that hit her smashed into bones.

Mrs McAliskey said that many questions over the attempt on their lives would probably never be answered. Why, for example, were four paratroopers on hand "almost as I hit the ground".

They did not belong to The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, stationed locally. The four men asked for a telephone but it had been cut by the attackers. The soldiers claimed their radio was not working, Mrs McAliskey said.

The paratroopers, who had arrested three men outside the bungalow, had left without giving medical help but promised to get it. For about 20 minutes she and her husband were without help until the Argylls arrived at the bungalow on the outskirts of the town.

Mrs McAliskey yesterday: "Unanswered" questions

She lay where she was shot, on the bedroom floor. Their three young children remained calm "and I did not hear them cry", Mrs McAliskey said.

She had expressed thanks to the Argylls who had administered medical help at the bungalow and during the helicopter flight to hospital, especially to one whose name she did not know.

"Had he not given assistance to me and applied a tourniquet to my husband, we would probably both be dead. Certainly, my husband would be."

The Fermanagh by-election raises a number of intriguing questions. The Social Democratic and Labour Party did not officially fight the seat in 1979 because of a bitter internal squabble, but there is little doubt that it will field a candidate this time.

If Mrs McAliskey stands, it is doubtful that Sinn Fein will fight the seat because it will not want to split the nationalist vote.

General election: M. F. Maguire (Ind) 23,398; R. Ferguson (Off UU) 17,411; A. Currie (SDLP) 10,785; E. Baird (UUUP) 10,607; P. Acheson (Alliance) 1,070; Ind maj 4,987.

Neutrality in Ireland, page 14

GLC accused of censorship over 'Romans'

By Martin Huckerby
Theatre Reporter

The Greater London Council's decision not to increase its grant to the National Theatre because of the play *The Romans in Britain* was "retrospective censorship", the Arts Council said yesterday.

Mr Kenneth Robinson, Arts Council chairman, said it regretted the decision to penalize the National for just one production out of 16 in a very successful year.

Such censorship was "all the more deplorable" in that the production was approved by the theatre's board, of which the leader and chief whip of the GLC were members.

Mr Frederick Weyer, chairman of the GLC's arts committee, said: "I am very surprised at such a statement, especially in view of some of the recent Arts Council decisions".

Rejecting the charge of censorship, he said the GLC had a right to review what the public was getting for its money.

West End theatres crisis 'a threat to tourism'

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

If the present crisis in the West End theatre were to persist, other industries, including tourism, would be affected, a Commons committee was told last night.

Mr John Gale, chairman of the Theatres National Committee, the body which speaks for the industry, said he had worked in the theatre for 35 years and this was the first time one third of the West End's forty theatres had been closed.

He considered it "lunatic" that the Inland Revenue should be losing so much money because of those closures.

The theatre was the training ground for many people employed in television. "Our theatre and our television are the best in the world by far, and television will suffer if artists are not trained in the theatre."

Mr Gale was giving evidence to the Select Committee for Education, Science and the Arts on public and private funding of the arts.

In a plea for tax advantages to be restored for "angels"—casual investors in theatrical productions—Mr Gale said they were normally comfortably off, even rich, people, and most enjoyed backing productions as a hobby. But while in 1960 the capitalization for an investor's first play was £5,000, the same play today would cost £100,000 to stage. "For backers it ceases to be a hobby."

A new musical based on the poems of T. S. Eliot, with a cast of 22 was costing £400,000 to present, he said.

His committee wanted pressure nationally and within the EEC for zero-rating of value-added tax for the theatre and a greater contribution to the arts from the independent television companies.

Another witness, Lord Redcliffe-Maud, author of a report on arts subsidies published five years ago, pleaded for the continued financial support of instrumental teaching in schools.

Seal-culling protest despite ban

By Hugh Clayton

About 400 demonstrators against seal-culling walked through London to a rally yesterday despite a government ban on all marches this month. Their route of almost two miles led from the south side of Westminster Bridge to Speakers' Corner.

They were accompanied by policemen who told them to proceed in groups of 20 at intervals of two minutes without massed placards and without interrupting traffic by walking in the road.

Demonstrators said they had been assured by the police that such activity would not constitute a march as defined by the government.

The demonstration was organized by the International Fund for Animal Welfare to protest against the annual cull of young harp seals which is about to begin in Newfoundland.

Floods damage homes and land in Wales and Dorset

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Mentally handicapped children were yesterday moved from a special school near Bridgend in Mid Glamorgan as flood warnings were given for several rivers in south Wales.

Flood water edged close to the children's school and volunteers and off-duty staff helped them to move aftr the warnings that the evening high tide could cause the flood water to rise to a dangerous level.

Unremitting rain flooded hundreds of acres of agricultural land and some house basements were swamped. In Cardiff wardrobe girls and helpers tried to save expensive costumes as water poured into the basement store room of the Welsh National Opera Company.

Dorset badly affected: Traffic wos blocked on roads in Dorset last night as the county's coastal towns were flooded by heavy rain (Our Weymouth Correspondent writes).

Flood protection gear was on standby at West Bay and Bridport as the River Brit threatened to burst its banks. Corfe Castle, homes flooded with two feet of w and at Swanage workmen h pump out houses.

Sandbags were piled ou shops at Southill shopping cinct, Weymouth, as a s river burst its banks flooded a supermarket.

Roads between Corfe C and Swanage and Dorch and Weymouth were cl during the afternoon and n other busy routes threatened. The police Bournemouth said it was a matter of time before r overflowed and flo property.

Roads were also blocke Frome in Somerset, and p reinforcements were broug at Dulverton, near Taunto the River Earle overflowed threatened to flood the vol

One crumb of comfort Dorset last night was the port that the sea was rough enough to come over Chesil Bank, as happened years ago when homes ruined.

Weather forecast and recordings

Today

Sun rises: 6.26 am. Sun sets: 5.56 pm
Moon rises: 8.45 am. Moon sets: 11.22 pm
First quarter: March 13.

Lighting up: 6.26 pm to 5.54 am.

High water: London Bridge, 4.19 am, 7.5m; 4.49 pm, 7.3m; Avonmouth, 10.01 am, 13.7m; 10.15 pm, 13.1m; Dover, 1.21 am, 6.8m; 1.45 pm, 6.6m; Hull, 8.54 am, 7.6m; 9.08 pm, 7.9m; Liverpool, 1.42 am, 9.5m; 1.59 pm, 9.7m. 1ft = 0.3048m 1m = 3.2808ft

A moist airstream covers much of the United Kingdom with troughs of low pressure moving NE across many districts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, East Anglia, E Midlands, E England: Bright intervals possible at first, probably rain at times; wind SW, fresh, max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

SE, central S, central N England, W Midlands: Mostly cloudy with occasional rain or drizzle, hill fog; wind SW fresh; max temp 12°C (54°F).

Channel Islands, SW, NW England, Wales, Isle of Man: Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, some heavy and prolonged, hill and coast fog; wind SW, fresh; max temp 11° to 12°C (52° to 54°F).

Lake District, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Cloudy, rain, becoming drizzly, hill and coast fog; wind fresh; max temp 10°C to 12°C (50° to 54°F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NW Scotland: Dull, periods of rain moving N and turning to drizzle. Hill fog: wind SE, or S, fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dull with periods of rain, hill fog developing; wind SE, fresh to strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).

N Ireland: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, hill fog patches; wind S or SW, moderate; max temp 10° to 11°C (50° to 52°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Continuing unsettled with rain in many places; generally mild.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Cha (E): Wind SW, strong, occas ally gale force: sea rough.

St George's Channel, Irish S: Wind S, fresh or strong; sea m erate or rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am 6 pm, 12°C (54°F); min 6 to 6 am, 11°C (52°F). Humid 6 pm, 93 per cent. Rain, 24 hr 6 pm, 0.44in. Sun, 24 hr to 6 nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 1010.5 millibars rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

The strike of civil servants prevented the Meteorolog Office from providing weat forecast maps

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	23	73	Cologne	r	14	57	Madrid	c	14	57	Reykjavik	c	-2	28
Algiers	s	18	64	Copenhgn	r	6	43	Majorca	s	19	66	Rome	s	16	61
Amsterdm	r	10	50	Florence	c	12	54	Malaga	s	19	66	San Fran	s	14	57
Athens	s	14	57	Geneva	f	14	57	Malta	s	17	63	Stockholm	s	[illegible]	[illegible]
Carbados	s	29	84	Gibraltar	s	18	64	Miami	r	23	73	Tel Aviv	s	18	64
Barcelona	f	16	61	Helsinki	r	1	34	Montreal	c	1	34	Toronto	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beirut	s	20	68	Innsbruck	f	12	54	Moscow	c	-3	27	Vancouver	c	10	50
Berlin	r	12	54	Istanbul	fg	8	46	Munich	c	14	57	Venice	f	12	54
Bermuda	s	17	63	Jersey	c	10	50	Naples	f	16	61	Vienna	r	13	55
Biarritz	s	23	73	L Palmas	s	26	79	New York	r	8	[illegible]	Warsaw	r	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	r	12	54	Locarno	s	12	54	Nice	f	13	55	Washingtn	c	11	52
Budapest	f	16	61	London	r	12	54	Oslo	s	-1	31	Zurich	f	14	57
Chicago	c	7	45	Luxembrg	d	10	50	Paris	c	15	59				

Overseas selling prices

[illegible]

[illegible]

All subscription rates on request